FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 APRIL 1984

Lebanon

Security Setback — The disengagement of forces was not completed as scheduled on 23 April because deployment of Internal Security Forces in central Beirut was hindered by renewed fighting in which heavy weapons were used, Beirut radio reported. Security sources cited by the radio blamed the Phalangists for the security setback, in which one member of the Security Forces was killed, and affirmed that the "national" forces continued to abide by the cease-fire. Voice of Lebanon radio accused "Hezbollah" gunmen of initiating the clashes, adding that the Army in East Beirut retaliated and destroyed an opposition position.

Political Situation — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad discussed the situation with former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, and Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, Damascus radio reported. The talks focused on efforts to realize national accord, the formation of a national unity government, and the movement toward "construction and liberation," the radio said. Karami subsequently told a news conference that Lebanon and Syria should adopt "one position" to defend "right" and liberate the south and expressed "appreciation and pride" in the Lebanese national resistance's daily struggle against the Israeli occupation forces, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Asked whether he will head the new government, Karami said this depends on both personal and constitutional considerations. Birri subsequently disclosed that the talks with Al-Asad touched on the level of participation of both Amal and the PSP in a national unity government,Beirut radio noted.

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus after a brief visit to Riyadh where he conveyed a message from Al-Asad to King Fahd concerning developments in Lebanon, Damascus television reported. "Well-informed" sources cited by the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio asserted that President Amin al-Jumayyil will visit Saudi Arabia on 26 April, although political sources cited by Beirut radio said that no date has yet been set for the visit. In another development, PSP leader Junblatt left Damascus after talks with Al-Asad and flew to Paris in response to an invitation from President Francois Mitterrand, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

Israel

Arens Interview — The Israeli Government is not planning to attack Syria, Defense Minister Moshe Arens stated repeatedly in an interview broadcast by IDF Radio. "No Israeli government...will initiate a war against Syria," he asserted. Arens claimed that Israel is not undertaking any "special movements" in eastern Lebanon and added that it should not consider a preemptive strike "at this point in time."

Bus Take-Over — The IDF has not established a commission of inquiry to look into the events which followed the takeover of the bus in the Gaza Strip, nor is it investigating what happened to "the two terrorists who remained alive in the course of the bus take-over," Jerusalem television reported. The IDF is conducting a "routine debriefing" in connection with the incident, the report added.

Egyptian-Israeli Relations

The peace with Israel is not only cold but is also "frozen" because of Israel's "intransigence," Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali stated in an *AL-AHRAM* interview reported by MENA. Nevertheless, Israel will try to improve relations with Egypt by initiating a resumption of bilateral contacts at asenior level, the Tel Aviv paper *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* disclosed.

Libya

A commentary on Britain's severing of relations broadcast by Tripoli radio warned that the action will "endanger" British interests in Libya and that the Libyan people "will not remain quiet in the face of injustice." At the same time the commentary stressed that relations are between peoples, not governments. In another commentary, JANA's political editor charged that the United States exerted "strong influence and pressure" on the UK to break off relations.

Iraq

First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan heads an Iraqi delegation which left for Moscow on 24 April, INA reported. Ramadan said the visit is aimed at expanding economic cooperation but noted that he will also discuss the Iran-Iraq war with Soviet officials.

PLO Affairs

According to a press statement issued in Algiers following the "inter-Palestinian" meeting, the participants stressed their commitment to PNC resolutions, emphasized efforts to preserve PLO unity centered on resistance to plots to liquidate the Palestinian cause, stressed the importance of promoting Palestinian armed struggle, agreed to hold further meetings, and decided that the next PNC meeting will be held after agreement is reached on "political and organizational" issues, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN* reported by QNA, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf disclosed that the Algiers meeting dealt only with political issues, noting that discussion of organizational matters was postponed until the next meeting. Khalaf also reported that the Fatah delegation to the Algiers meeting had indicated readiness to "clear up the atmosphere" with Syria.

FBIS

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Reportage on PLO Reconciliation Meetings in Algiers

Participants Comment

JN221103 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 22 Apr 84 pp 1, 19

[Exclusive dispatch]

[Excerpts] The Palestinian dialogue conference has ended its first session, which lasted 5 consecutive days, at Qasr as-Sunawbar Palace in the Algerian Capital, and will resume its meetings at a date to be fixed later. In the beginning, bilateral and tripartite consultations took place, peppered with the participants' differing opinions regarding topics under discussion and the representation of the participant factions. This delayed for 3 days the convening of the first official session, which was held at the level of the assistant secretaries general of the main factions in the PLO.

A Palestinian official described the atmosphere of the discussions as satisfactory. Abu 'Ali Mustafa, member of the democratic alliance's joint command, added: We held a frank discussion on the responsibility of the Fatah Central Committee for the state of affairs in the Palestinian arena.

Mustafa az-Zubari, assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], said: We do not expect the conferees to achieve any tangible results, particularly since we only have today, Saturday, to complete our discussions due to other prior arrangements by the participants. Therefore, we hope to hold another round of talks at a later date.

Qays as-Samirra'i, a member of the DFLP's Political Bureau which is participating in the democratic alliance delegation, described the first round of talks as positive, in general. He said that during the talks they agreed to tackle the political situation on the basis of the resolutions of the 16th session of the PNC and to refer to them regarding all topics on the agenda.

On the popular conference, the Palestinian official said: The brothers in the Fatah movement did not inform us of their intention to call for such a conference which we, in the democratic alliance, regard as a step that will lead only to fragmentation and destructive results within the PLO's legitimate institutions. This compels us to reject such calls and urge everyone to refrain from taking such a course.

On the Cairo visit, As-Samirra'i said: Everyone opposed the visit. We reaffirmed that it was a violation of the PNC's political and organizational resolutions. We reaffirmed that this violation should be accounted for so that the resolutions of the highest Palestinian authority are respected, in order to give the PNC its credibility as a practical representative of the Palestinian people based on the political resolutions of the Palestinian legislative and executive institutions. We sensed that the brothers in the Fatah movement understood our position. This was manifested by the positive atmosphere that prevailed throughout the dialogue and which stems from everyone's eagerness to overcome the crisis and embark on an effective role on all levels.

Conferees Reach Agreement

GF221830 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] An official spokesman for the representatives of Palestinian factions who are meeting in Algiers has announced that the conferees have reached a complete agreement on the topics of the agenda. In a statement made this afternoon during the closed meetings, the spokesman said that an atmosphere of understanding is prevailing among all parties and the discussion is focusing ways to support the PLO and preserve the Palestinian institutions. A comprehensive statement on the results of the meetings will be issued later.

Next Session Possible 10 May

LD222334 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] The inter-Palestinian meeting in Algiers ended tonight. A communique will be issued the day after tomorrow, but informed sources indicate that an agreement has already been reached for a new, extended meeting which will be held in the Algerian capital, perhaps on 10 May.

At this meeting Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] led the Fatah delegation; Abu 'Ali Mustafa led that of the PFLP; Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh that of the DFLP; and Sulayman Najjab that of the Palestinian Communist Party. The last meeting was held in the presence of the official responsible for the FLN permanent secretariat of the Central Committee, Mr. Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, but also in the presence of Mr. (?Mohamed Yazid), member of the Central Committee, and Mr. Sadek Zouaten, member of the Central Committee External Relations Department. Also present was Mr 'Abd al-Qadir 'Abd al-Ghani, member of the Politburo of the Socialist Party of the PDRY.

Focus on Political Aspects

GF231100 Doha QNA in Arabic 0810 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Apr (QNA) — Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, has stated that the Palestinian dialogue currently taking place in Algeria is in its early stages. He added that this meeting resulted in the continuation of dialogue in all the fields, regardless of the points of difference. Salah Khalaf also said this dialogue will continue in the form of other rounds of talks that will be held in Algeria for the next 2 weeks.

In a statement to Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN* published today Abu Iyad went on to say that the dialogue focused only on the political aspect, while the organizational matters dealing with the Palestinian institutions and associations and the Palestinian council have been postponed for the next meeting.

On the political aspect, Salah Khalaf indicated that the Fatah delegation to this dialogue expressed a readiness to clear up the atmosphere with Syria. Noting that the Fatah delegation asserted that there are no differences on denouncing the Camp

David accords, he pointed out that the differences are that Fatah regards Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo as an organizational violation, while the other Palestinian factions regard it as a political violation — though they dropped many of their previous charges.

No Comprehensive Agreeement

JN231414 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Commenting on the Palestinian meeting that ended in Algiers yesterday evening, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said: The meeting reached preliminary results. However, some basic issues are still pending. The meeting stressed that the PNC will meet only after a comprehensive agreement is reached on the basic political and organizational issues.

Press Statement

JN231744 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 23 Apr 84

["Press statement" issued on 23 April in Algeris following inter-Palestinian meeting]

[Text] An inter-Palestinian meeting was held in Algiers 19-23 April 1984 by delegations representing the Palestine National Liberation Movement, Fatah; the PFLP; the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine; and the Palestinian Communist Party. The Palestinian Liberation Front participated in the discussions. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Algerian FLN and the YSP.

The current PLO situation, the threats facing it, the liquidationist plots against our revolution, and the fierce Zionist onslaught against our people inside the occupied territory were all discussed during the meeting. Emphasis was placed on the means of solving the PLO's current crisis in order to strengthen it as the vanguard for the Palestinian people's struggle and their sole legitimate representative; and to entrench its position on the Arab and international levels.

The discussions were held in an atmosphere of national responsibility for the future and unity of the revolution. the discussions dealt with the main issues the PLO is facing at this delicate stage in our people's struggle. the conferees stressed their commitment to the PNC resolutions, particularly those pertaining to the 16th PNC session, becasue they are the basis of PLO unity and of tackling differences within the PLO. The meeting highlighted the importance of the efforts to preserve the PLO's unity on the basis of rejecting and resisting the imperialist and Zionist plots to liquidate the Palestinian cause — particularly the Camp David agreements, the autonomy plan, and the Reagan plan. the conferees stressed the importance of promoting the various forms of Palestinian national struggle, especially armed struggle. They agreed to continue their discussions at future meetings in order to solve all of the problems that are still hindering the national unity march, and to open comprehensive national dialogue to tackle and overcome the crisis.

The conferees agreed that the PNC meeting must be based on comprehensive Palestinian national agreement from both the political and organizational viewpoints. The conferring parties should agree on speeding up the national dialgoue process in order to pave the way for the PNC meeting. This should be one of the conferees' primary tasks in order to strengthen our people's national unity. The future meeting will discuss the problem of setting an appropriate date to hold the PNC in accordance with the above principles.

The conferees highly appreciate the sincere, constructive efforts of the brothers in the FLN who hosted the meeting and facilitated its work. They affirm that this representes the desire of the Algerian revolution to back and support our Palestinian revolution and its aims. They expressed their deep gratitude for Brother Struggler Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary genral and president of the Democratic and People's Republic of Algeria. They also value the positive role of the YSP comrades in this dialegue as an expression of their solidarity with our Palestinian people's struggle and their desire to assist our Paelstinian revolution.

Algiers, 23 April 1984.

Al-Wazir Comments

JN231822 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Commenting on the Algiers meeting, Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, said: During the working sessions that lasted for 2 days, a full review was made of the orgnaizational issues, stands, and situations in the PLO. The work of the various institutions was discussed as well as the possibility of holding the PNC. The various sides presented their full views on these issues, whether on the Palestinian, Arab, or international levels. They dealt with the PLO unity, with restorating life to its institutions, and with reactivating them in a speedy manner.

Positive steps were made in drawing up future frameworks and in summarizing the results that have been approved on the basis of this first dialogue session, which will be followed by other sessions after the various sides to the meeting hold the necessary consultations with their respective institutions so that another meeting will be held within 1 week. [sentence as heard]

Abu Jihad added: The discussions were held in a spirit of responsibility, national commitment, and the desire of all sides to preserve the unity of the PLO and the revolution as well as their independent national decisionmaking. The meeting stressed the need for wider participation of the Palestinian factions, forces, and functionaries. The conferees stressed the need to face all attempts to create alternative or parallel bodies to the PLO institutions. The conferees dealt with each other in this spirit. They were determined to end this meeting with an agreement on a future meeting.

Abu Jihad said: We felt that the brothers who participated in the meeting wanted to discuss the problems objectively, without casting doubt or issuing unjust statements. They wanted to reach

definite, tangible results that would give a material and moral boost to the current Palestinian fragmentation. We believe that this spirit and these trends are the beginning of common basis for establishing new alliances among the fronts — alliances that would be characterized by respect for joint political and organizational decisions.

On the popular congress, Abu Jihad said: We have no intention of holding a popular congress that is isolated from the others. We have presented our views in this field. We do not see that there will be a conflict if a popular congress is held with the PNC. On the contrary, we think that the popular congress will strengthen the PNC and the Palestinian legitimacy. In any case, this issue is still under discussion.

On whether the future meeting will be on the level of the secretaries general, Abu Jihad said: There is nothing to prevent such a level. However, those participating in this meeting did not deal with this issue.

On his evaluation of the Algerian stand, Abu Jihad said: The Algerian stand was characterized by a sincere desire to achieve positive, fruitful results that would lead to strengthening PLO unity. The Algerian and Yemeni brothers exerted great efforts to pave the way for these meetings. They endeavored to bring viewpoints closer; they participated in the opening session, but left the Palestinian sides to solve their problems alone.

Al-Wazir on PLO Meetings, Military Operations

LD201216 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Interview with Khalil al-Wazir, identified by nom de guerre Abu Jihad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and chairman the Fatah delegation to the Algiers meeting that includes DFPL and PFLP members, by unidentified correspondent; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Brother Abu Jihad, there are two important subjects that attract the attention of our masses and revolutionaries inside and outside the occupied Palestinian land. The first one is the tripartite meeting, which includes a number of the Palestinian revolution squads. The second is the escalating military operations inside our occupied Palestinian land. Concerning the first subject, what does Brother Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, think of this meeting? What does he expect? Is he optimistic about the results that will be achieved by this meeting?

[Al-Wazir] We are meeting in Algeria, the land of revolution and heroism, in order to consolidate the march of unity of the PLO and the march of the national Palestinian armed struggle. We must remember that when the forces of the Zionist enemy committed their aggression in June 1982 against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples the announced aim of the leadership of the enemy was the destruction of the PLO and its military force, then its political organizations, then evicting the Palestinian revolution from all Lebanese territories.

We are interested in the PLO institutions working normally in their struggle, so they can face up to their missions and commitments. However, we found many obstacles, especially from some Arab brothers who obstruct the march of these institutions and stop our people from continuing their mission — attempts to obstruct the PNC convention, intentional attempts to obstruct the meetings of the PLO Executive Committee or any institution. Therefore, we in Fatah started the dialogues with all the brothers. We repeatedly sent out calls so there would be a sincere conscientious stance for this responsibility, a commitment to the national duty, and a will to get out of this trap and guide institutions to meetings so legitimacy does not become obstructed from fulfilling their missions and facing up to their responsibilities [sentence as heard]

It has been agreed that we and the PFLP and DFLP comrades will meet as a first stage, in which we deal with the facts and discuss with fraternal frankness and in detail the options we have, and why we should quickly reach the broad lines about which we agree and the minimum or maximum on which we can meet or anything in between so that the march of the Palestinian institutions is not delayed.

Today we meet on the land of Algeria through the good offices of the brother Algerian officials and the good offices performed in this concern by the brother PDRY officials. We hope to achieve what we aspire to: consolidating the unity of this organization. We all come with clear hearts and minds that are looking for, before anything, the principal response from these sides.

[Correspondent] Brother Abu Jihad, the second subject is the escalation of military action inside the occupied land. How does the deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces see the future of military action inside the occupied territories, and what are the things that should be present in order to consolidate this struggle and continue it inside occupied Palestine?

[Al-Wazir] As we said, as a Palestinian people who struggle and whose homeland is occupied, and who live under continuous daily Zionist terrorism, which we detailed some of its forms, we have no option. Every morning, every house in our occupied land wakes up to see a new act of invasion taking place seeking to usurp the house, loot the land, or confiscate the crops.

In Jerusalem, Arab and Islamic Jerusalem, campaigns of land confiscation and seizure of holy places continue almost daily. They have been seizing more and more Arab lands; only a small part remain in the hands of the Arabs. They have been robbing Jerusalem lands on which to build their settlements.

These days, in Arab and Muslim Jerusalem the Israelis have been erecting new flats and buildings inside the Arab and Muslim city. They have so far built no less than 40,000 new apartments in the city of Jerusalem to house 200,000 new Zionists in Arab Jerusalem, at a time when the number of Arabs and Mulsims living in Jerusalem amount to only 110,000.

These oppressions and these sufferings that our people are going through prompt them to live up to the level of facing these

practices. Thus our people have the right to carry arms and struggle. They have the right to reject oppression and aggression. They have the right to face up to occupation. It is for this that the strugglers of our people are daily carrying out their armed operations against the forces of the occupation army in Gaza, Nabulus, Jerusalem, or deep in the Israeli heart: in Tel Aviv and in the other occupied towns.

These operations continue with the hope that they will escalate daily more and more. In recent times, these operations have begun to take varying forms. Our people, our strugglers, and the Palestinian revolution have no alternative but to continue along this road: Escalating military operations and increasing them, and affirming that the armed struggle is the principal means in our struggle against this enemy.

Nobody can imagine that this enemy will one day submit except in as much as it feels greater blows deep inside its depth. The operations in Southern Lebanon have been exhausting its energies and causing daily losses. These operationos that take place in our occupied Palestinian territory also exhaust its energies and further increase its losses, and consequently deepen its problems and make it realize that there can never be peace in the area and enemies cannot live in peace until our people attain their rights to return to their homeland, to self-determination, and to set up their own independent national Palestinian state. It is for this that the struggle is escalating and it is for this that the banners of the armed struggle continue to flutter.

Those who believe that there is any feasibility for political solutions and peaceful plans are wrong. This is because they fail to realize the nature of the Zionist enemy, who is a cunning maneuverer always trying to deceive our Arab nation and the world as well by his political maneuvering.

There is no hope at all for this enemy to respond to any international or political attempts. None of us expects any possibility for a political solution as long as this enemy continues to pursue this line and intensifies its determination to eradicate and dissipate any hopes for giving the Arab people their rights.

In view of this, our principal option is to face up to its stubbornness and continue realizing that there is no hope at all for us but to go along with the only option open to us these days: to escalate our armed struggle, to increase the national struggle, and to increase the military and political struggle until we crush the will of this enemy. We believe that this line should be bolstered by our Arab nation so that the protracted people's war of liberation would be the course adopted by our nation's masses and the means with which we face up to the designs of our enemy.

This very long silence, the very long peace and security our enemy enjoys is being invested in further preparations for a new aggression and new threats. We have no alternative but to continue on the road of our armed struggle. We are confident that the following days and weeks will bring more heroic operations in which our Palestinian strugglers offer more blood and sacrifices because the road to Palestine can only be strewn with blood, sacrifices, sufferings, and agonies. Across all that, we can reach our Palestine.

Syrian Support for Current Meetings Discussed

GF221954 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 21 Apr 84 pp 1, 22

[By Muhammad Masa'd Samrah]

[Text] A high-level Palestinian official has disclosed to *AL-QABAS* that the tripartite meeting which is currently being held in Algiers for the factions of the Palestinian resistance and which is being attended by representatives of the PDRY, Algeria, and the Lebanese National Movement has been blessed and supported by Syria, which will participate in this meeting later.

The Palestinian official stressed that President Hafiz al-Asad emphasized to a Yemeni official, with whom he met for 30 minutes on 7 April, that Syria does not object at all to holding a dialogue with the Fatah Central Committee in order to end the misunderstanding which prevails between Syria and Fatah on the one hand, and between Fatah and some other factions of the Palestinian revolution on the other.

The Palestinian official said that the Syrian leader told the Yemeni official that any talks with Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, at the first stage of the dialogue with Fatah are out of the question at present. However, President al-Asad stressed that talks with Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] are possible after clearing the atmosphere and returning things to normal, and after defining ground for joint work to face Israel and the U.S. imperialism. Quoting the Yemeni official, the Palestinian official said that President al-Asad stressed that the Lebanese problem and the readiness to confront any anticipated Israeli strike are Syria's first priorities at all levels at present together with some internal affairs, which have resulted from the absence of President al-Asad during his illness.

The Palestinian official disclosed that an invitation has been extended to the Fatah Central Committee to hold a fraternal dialogue with Syrian officials on all issues which concern the Palestinian revolution and which will restore the Palestinian-Syrian cohesion to what it was before 'Arafat's departure from Damascus. He stressed that contacts with Damascus on beginning such meetings are continuing and that the Fatah Central Committee supports such meetings.

The Palestinian official sharply criticized the behavior of some leaders in the PLO and said: Doors have been opened to them, including the door of Egypt, which is still deeply involved in implementing the Camp David agreements and military treaties with the United States. He added: As for us, all doors have been closed in our faces since our departure from Beirut, but even if they were opened to us, we would refuse to enter such doors which some entered after our forces became scattered and far removed from our occupied territory.

The Palestinian official hailed the Soviet role in the restoration of Syrian-Palestinian relations, and stressed that a Soviet official in Tunis told him recently that Syria does not bear any hatred toward the Fatah movement or its leadership, but that it is concerned with its unity and the unity of the PLO.

On the anticipated Syrian-Israeli confrontation, the Palestinian official said that a Soviet official stressed that the Soviet Union will not allow Syria to be defeated at all, not only on its territory but also in the whole al-Biqa' area. The Soviet official added that Syria now has weapons and advisers, to enable it not only to resist any expected Israeli attack, but also to inflict heavy losses.

Quoting the Soviet official, the Palestinian official said that Moscow was recently in a state of anxiety over the situation in Syria, which was a hair's breadth away from a split in the rule — a thing which would affect Syria's solid stand toward the United States and Israel, which have been trying to nourish this split and create internal disturbances in Syria. The Soviet official said the situation in Syria is now good and that the crisis ended when the Syrian president resumed his normal duties.

PLO Spokesman on Resistance Plans, Bus Bombing

LD240121 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] An official Palestinian spokesman has asserted that the Palestinian resistance will turn occupied Palestine into a battlefield and will escalate its fida'i operations against all the Zionist targets regionally and internationally. The spokesman added that those who occupied our land are not considered settlers and that our country, occupied Palestine, will remain a field of confrontation and a battlefield until we liberate it from the expansionist usurpers.

As for the bus operation which the Palestinian fedayeen carried out on 13 April in the occupied territories, the spokesman revealed how the operation was carried out and said that a fida'i group boarded the bus at the central bus station in Tel Aviv and succeeded in crossing three roadblocks of the Zionist enemy forces and in hurling bombs on them.

The spokesman has asserted that the Palestinian resistance will continue its military operations until the Palestinians achieve their right to self-determination and establish their own independent state on their national soil.

'Arafat Praises Work of Jerusalem Committee

LD231321 Rabat MAP in English 1221 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Rabat, April 23 [MAP] — While the Al-Quds committee was meeting in Fes on April 19 and 20 the Arab-Islamic nation was being tested by America in order to know its reactions regarding different challenges. The committee's works enabled us therefore to fathom the gravity of the decisive phase our nation is going through and to come out of it with the most appropriate measures, declared Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

In an interview published Monday by the daily *L'OPINION*, organ of the Istiqlal Party (Social Democrat), Mr 'Arafat lauded the efforts exerted by King Hassan II of Morocco "who put all his weight on the committee's discussions to ensure the success of this important meeting".

Dealing with "the concrete resolutions" adopted by the committee, Mr Yasir 'Arafat cited the diplomatic decisions "which will support our [as received] to take up the Israeli challenges aiming at despoiling the holy sites of Al Quds", as well as those aiming at "sensitizing the higher international instances and certain super powers to the Palestinian and Islamic cause.

Mr 'Arafat cited also "the recommendations and resolutions adopted at the level of the Al-Quds fund which recommended a consistent support to the Arab struggle in the interior of the Palestinian territory". This support will be effected by a Jordanian-Palestinian commission.

Regarding relations between the Palestinians and American instances, Mr 'Arafat said they are no longer in touch indicating that certain milieux from the American Congress urge the administration to have no contact with the Palestinians.

KUWAIT

Pro-Iranian Leaflets Distributed by 'Fifth Column'

GF231529 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 22 Apr 84 pp 1, 22

[Article by 'Abdallah Ahmad Husayn, former Kuwaiti ambassador to Morocco: "Statement No 6"]]

[Excerpts] In front of me there is Statement No 6, issued by the "Now Are We Patient" group. The statement begins with three calls in the manner of serious and determined revolutionaries and is addressed to those with "wakeful consciences."

The statement assails Arab regimes in the Arabian Gulf, from the Iraqi regime to the Omani regime. It incites the people to rebel against these regimes for no other reason than that they are at present in a state of war against the Iranian regime. These include Iraq and those who are supporting Iraq or are putting their heads in the sand instead of fighting alongside Iran and giving allegiance to the Iranian regime, which insists on restoring the glory of the Persian kings.

The issuing of a statement assailing the Arab regimes does not bother me, because these regimes are either aware of their error and persist in committing it and in this case deserve to be attacked, or they are pursuing policies that serve the interests of the people and in that case do not need any recommendation from anyone, least of all from ethnic immigrant groups. What is interesting is that the statement was issued in Kuwait and was widely distributed within the university. We in Kuwait express our views freely. Although we have reservations on the publications law and object to the occasional unjustifiable reference of some cases to the public prosecutor, we frankly say that freedom here is safeguarded to a great extent, and anyone who has proof openly condemns any quarter in Kuwait. Therefore, what reason is there to distribute leaflets secretly other than that the stand propounded in such leaflets is illegitimate?

We are not defending the regimes in the Arab Gulf, for they know where they went right and where they went wrong. The people are also fully aware of this and talk about it overtly or covertly. The distribution of a leaflet full of hatred against those whom it describes as tyrants and oppressors while praising a dictatorial regime that has shown unprecedented bloodthirstiness indicates that the statement was not issued by any Arab quarter, however rancorous it may be, and that those who issued it are not interested in preventing bloodshed, for they see the rivers of blood flowing within Iran and on its western border and adolescent children dying without batting an eyelid.

We are accustomed to leaflets that sometimes say what is right and sometimes say what is wrong, and we have known stands adopted by people who advocate views which we support or oppose, but we have been aware that in both cases these people are of our nation. However, in this statement we clearly see the fifth column and the members of the immigrant ethnic groups staring at us with hatred. We do not know whether officials now believe that the situation requires a serious stand or whether they are still speaking innocently and assuredly of the one family.

There is no doubt that the authors of the statement are fellow-travelers of those who carried out the bomb attacks and whom the statement said were crushing the bastions of the infidels, including, of course, Kuwaiti establishments in Ash-Shu'aybah, the airport, and elsewhere.

The statement seeks to suggest that its authors are Kuwaitis, although the authors believe that the Iranian regime is the only good regime in the Gulf and that all others should be fought because they are the regimes of infidels and tyrants. I do not know a Kuwaiti who is not Arab and I do not know an Arab who gives his allegiance to a foreign quarter.

In all our writings we did not deny that there is a fifth column in Kuwait, and indeed in all the Arab Gulf countries. We were accused of being racist and of sowing sedition and were harassed. We were aware that the immigrant ethnic groups could have no loyalty to Kuwait, because loyalty to Kuwait stems from loyalty to Arabism. We were viewed as though we were creating differences among the country's citizens and obstacles were placed in our path — although the situation then eased, because the judicial authorities in our country are just.

The statements issued by this Persian group are numbered, but I have only come across Statement No 6. They will undoubtedly issue more statements. I think these statements are useful, because they reveal to us the extent of the hatred harbored by those who have infiltrated our ranks when we were unaware. Are we capable of taking a firm stand that ends the farce of dual loyalty: to Kuwait and to countries other than Kuwait? Are we capable of retaining control of the situation, when after giving the immigrant ethnic groups many opportunities, we went to sleep, whereas they have always been awake?

It was not only the anti-Arab [shu'ubi] Marxists who supported Iran's "Islamic Revolution," for the statements of 'Umar at-Tilmisani [leader of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt] do not condemn the Persian stand. The Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan has also not shown enthusiasm in supporting the Arab position in the face of the Persian invaders. I do not know how to describe a stand whose advocates do not defend Arab survival in the region, whether such advocates are a religious group or a "nationalist, progressive, leftist" group!

We have not yet achieved utopia in the region and we do not claim that everything is well. We still have reservations on many stands. We do not claim that the GCC has yielded the expected results. However, the solution to such shortcomings is not to throw ourselves at the feet of the ayatollahs of Iran or to forfeit our Arabism and ask the new shah of Iran to improve our conditions and save us from our rulers, whatever the shortcomings of some of these rulers.

Plan To Protect Ammonia Pipeline Under Consideration

GF211306 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 20 Apr 84 p 3

[Excerpts] An official source of the public administration of Ash-Shu'aybah District has said that the administration's officials have been holding intensive meetings with area security

officials affiliated to the Ministry of Interior and officials of companies operating in the district in order to draw up a tight security plan to protect public installations in the area and those working in them.

In a statement to *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, the official said that intensive talks are currently taking place on protecting the ammonia pipeline and reservoir to determine the threat that it could pose to the district. He said that several suggestions have been made in this regard but that the suggestions did not receive unanimous support because they are economically unfeasible and because they are difficult to implement in view of the great speed with which this poisonous and lethal gas spreads and the difficulty of controlling it.

The official said that one suggestion that was discussed was to buy protective masks to be distributed among the plant's 14,000 workers, with the companies operating in the district incurring the expenses. However, in view of the high cost of these gas masks — they cost about 150 Kuwaiti dinars [approximately $450] per mask — the companies rejected the suggestion as economically unfeasible.

The source said that a new plan is currently being discussed at a high level as a prelude to approving it. The plan provides for transferring the ammonia pipeline and reservoir to another area far from the Ash-Shu'aybah District public administration, where they will be guarded by the Army. The plan requires evacuation of the entire region to a distance of some 40 km.

The official said that the security authorities have for some time been prohibiting all cars from parking in the area or approaching the ammonia pipeline, and have issued permits for a limited number of cars to remain at night within the restricted area.

Commentary on Deficit in Draft Budget
GF211928 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 20 Apr 84 pp 1, 9

[Editorial: "Between the Deficit and the Coming Generations"]

[Text] The general budget of the country is the numerical and financial translation of many of the country's policies. The figures determine the size of the government's activities — what the state offers in the form of services; what projects it carries out; what it takes from the citizen; what it provides for the citizen; what the rental rates will be; what effect it will have on the standard of living; and so on. Hence, the budget is not to be considered a secondary matter, since it has a real effect on the citizen's life.

In the oil-producing countries, since this resource represents 90 percent of the country's revenues, the importance of the budget increases as the influence of the government financial policies increases. In this respect, we say that the draft budget which the minister of state announced yesterday is not a routine matter but one that deserves discussion. We need to pose the question: Whither Kuwait?

Looking at the budget figures, one is shocked by the first figure. There is a deficit of approximately 800 million dinars, a deficit confirmed by the statement of the Bank for International Settlements which was also published yesterday and which said that the OPEC countries have been borrowing regularly and that among those who have drawn large sums in the course of the past year are Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the UAE.

The deficit is therefore real and certified internationally. It is a deficit that poses two questions: The first concerns those policies which the government insisted upon and which deserve complete support. Despite the fall in oil revenues and the existence of a real budget deficit, the insistence on paying attention to new investments and to the construction sector as a means of activating the economy was evident. In addition, there is an adherence to the continuation of Arab support, which translates Kuwait's policy into one of Arab fraternity and solidarity. And then there was eagerness to continue the reserves for the coming generations, even at the ninimum level as legislated by the law. All that was positive.

But that moves us on to the second question that is highlighted by figures: Even if there were no reserves, something which we would oppose, the deficit would continue, because the sum allocated for the coming generations is much less than the deficit sum. So the question is: Will the deficit continue and will we draw on our reserves, or will we continue to borrow from abroad? If the situation continues as is, what benefit will we gain from the next generation's reserves? If we said that it is an incidental deficit, who can guarantee it will remain so, since oil fluctuations are uncontrollable and there is now an imbalance in resources and expenditures? Who can guarantee that the deficit will not eat away, in the coming years, all that we have built up in reserves or possess in investments abroad?

The matter needs to be decisively settled. The service charges the government has proposed, which were alluded to by the minister of state yesterday, may not be sufficient to solve the problem. Therefore, the fundamental question is: Will there be a new structure for revenues and expenditures by which the state can balance its budget? Will there by a change in policy to increase revenues and decrease expenditures? The matter is not simple, but an answer is necessary. The budget program has been referred to the National Assembly and we must find an answer.

Jerusalem Committee Criticism of U.S. Said Too Mild
LD221156 Kuwait KUNA in English 1051 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Kuwait, April 22 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti newspaper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* Sunday criticized the Jerusalem Committee resolutions, saying they should have carried direct warning to the U.S. over the possible relocation of its embassy in Israel rather than to banana republics like Costa Rica and El Salvador.

In a front page editorial, the paper courteously described the resolutions on severing relations with these two countries, taken by the committee in its special meeting concluded Friday, as "good" but expressed pessimism over their implementation.

"The perplexing thing about Arabs in matters concerning their major issues, and in particular the Palestinian question, has never

been lack of decisions but rather a chronic inability to stick to what they decide, the paper said.

"Had we done that a long time ago, we would not have reached such times when banana republics, stooges of the CIA and American corporations look down on all Arabs and Muslims and defy an international resolution taken by the U.N. Security Council, banning relocation of foreign embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem," the paper set out.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM noted that Washington "is behind such a challenge exhibited by those countries as an interim substitute for its postponement of a decision on moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem."

"The decision should have been directed to the head of the serpent, the United States. Only then would the world community realize the seriousness of the Arab and Islamic decision in this regard," *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* underlined.

OMAN

Sultan Qabus Receives Message From Ziaul Haq

GF231459 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has received a written message from the Pakistani president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq. The message was received by Fahar ibn Taymur Al Bu Sa'id, deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs, during a meeting with General Farooq Sardar Shaukat Khan, the Pakistani president's envoy, who is currently visiting the country.

During the meeting bilateral relations between the two friendly countries were also discussed.

The meeting was attended by Pakistani ambassador to Oman and Staff Brigadier General Malallah ibn Rustum as-Sabiqi, representative of the deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs.

Joint Exercises With UAE Air Force End

GF211458 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1245 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Muscat, 21 Apr (WAKH) — A group of pilots and technicians of the UAE Air Force led by Staff Major Jasim Muhammad ash-Shamsi left Muscat today following a visit to the Sultanate of Oman that lasted several days.

During the visit, the group carried out joint exercises with fighter pilots of the Omani Air Force. The joint exercises began on 14 April.

QATAR

Reportage on Amir's Visit to South Korea

For Seoul accounts of the visit to South Korea of the amir, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, including his summit talks with South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan and a Qatar-ROK joint communique, see the South Korea section of the 24 April Asia & Pacific *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Oil Slick Spotted Off Coast East of Doha

GF240540 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 24 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] Oil patches scattered over a radius of between 12 and 16 kilometres have been spotted east of Doha, the Qatar capital's port master [said] yesterday.

The origin of the patches, some one and a half kilometres long, was not known.

SAUDI ARABIA

Syria's Khaddam Meets With King, Ministers in Riyadh

JN231456 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] King Fahd of Saudi Arabia received Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Riyadh today. Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, and Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal attended the meeting. Khaddam arrived in Riyadh earlier today.

Khaddam Departs 23 April

LD231819 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1558 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam left Riyadh this afternoon after a short visit to the Kingdom lasting a few hours, during which he had the honor of being received by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

He was seen off at King Khalid Airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; His Royal Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, Saudi ambassador to Washington; and a number of officials.

Recommendations of Jerusalem Committee Extolled

LD221848 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] The frank resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Jerusalem Committee came out strong and firm because of the clear deterrent measures they represent for saving the holy city, for confronting of the Zionist plot aimed at changing the city's Arab-Islamic nature, and for confronting the attempts to

transfer foreign embassies from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem through a new Zionist aggressive move to perpetuate the occupation of the holy city and judaize it.

Among the measures taken by the committee during its extraordinary meeting in Fes under His Royal Highness King Hassan II of Morocco was the decision to sever diplomatic relations with El Salvador and Costa Rica because of the transfer of their embassies to occupied Jerusalem and the committee's call on all member countries of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) to sever diplomatic, economic, and cultural relations with any state which decides to move its embassy to occupied Jerusalem, thus implementing the resolution of the third Islamic Summit held in At-Tayif in 1980. The Committee also recommended that its chairman, His Majesty King Hassan II, should go to the United States, if conditions warrant, leading an Islamic delegation which would hold contacts with the U.S. Administration concerning the U.S. Congress' proposal to transfer the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem. This proposal is considered a challenge to the feelings of the Arabs and the Muslims and constitutes at the same time a violation of the international resolutions approved by the United States itself, especially Security Council Resolution 478 issued in 1980, which calls for the preservation of Jerusalem, its Arabism and its holy places. And as a [word indistinct] step to ensure that the international organizations shoulder their responsibilities towards the aggressive plots being hatched against Jerusalem, the Jerusalem Committee decided to contact the Security Council permanent members and the various international organisations in order to move them regarding the transfer of foreign embassies to Jerusalem and to convince them of the legitimacy and soundness of the Islamic cause concerning occupied Jerusalem and its holy places.

Through these resolutions and recommendations it becomes clear to all that the Jerusalem Committee, as it has repeatedly done, reconfirms the determination of the Islamic and Arab nation to abort the Zionist attempts aimed at the perpetuation of the occupation of Jerusalem and the other occupied Arab land.

Arab and Islamic political quarters have considered the firm resolutions and recommendations of the Jerusalem Committee a constructive step within the framework of the Islamic efforts to confront the Zionist plans in the holy city and the continuing judaization in occupied Jerusalem on the grounds that the Arab and Islamic right in Jerusalem is so clear and evident that it cannot be trampled upon and concealed by the wicked Zionist measures aimed at judaization. Neither can this right be used in blackmail or in exerting pressure in order to violate principles and challenge the whole international community.

It is known that the Jerusalem Committee, which was formed in 1975, is mainly entrusted with making foreign governments and world public opinion aware of the actions carried out by the Zionist occupation forces aimed in particular at erasing the Arab-Islamic character of the city of Jerusalem. In order to consolidate the actions of this committee the tenth Islamic conference was held in 1979 in Fes to widen the committee to include 14 Islamic states, in addition to the PLO, out of the desire of the Islamic Conference Organisation to enable the committee to carry out its tasks more effectively.

UAE

President To Visit Kenya, Bangladesh

GF231151 Doha QNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 23 Apr (QNA) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan will leave Abu Dhabi on Wednesday for Kenya on a 3-day official visit at the invitation of Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi.

He will also pay an official visit to Bangladesh in early May at the invitation of Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

Iranian Envoy Meets With Finance Minister

LD231933 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran April 23 IRNA — The Islamic Republic ambassador to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Mahmoud Sadat Madar-Shali, Sunday met and conferred with UAE Minister of Finance and Industries, Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum.

In this meeting, the Iranian ambassador outlined the situation of the region, the Iraqi-imposed war, Iraq's employment of chemical weapons and Iran's stance vis-a-vis the inhuman acts of the Iraqi regime.

Also topics on trade exchanges between the two countries and the ways and means for the expansion and development of ties were discussed by the two officials.

The UAE minister said his country would look forward with keen interest to further trade relations between the two countries and noted that Iran and the UAE have had long years of trade ties behind themselves and expressed confidence that the relations between the two countries would continue in the future.

Reevaluation of Relations With U.S. Called for

GF211012 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0645 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Dubayy, 21 Apr (WAM) — The newspaper *AL-BAYAN* today called on the Arabs to reevaluate their relations with the United States based on the manner in which the U.S. Administration has chosen to conduct these relations, which is total prejudice toward the Israeli enemy.

AL-BAYAN noted that there are numerous pieces of evidence proving that this is the U.S. stance, the last of which was the position adopted by the U.S. representative to the United Nations against the draft resolution by Lebanon to renew the term of UNIFIL because the resolution stated in some of its clauses that UNIFIL is present "to supervise the withdrawal of the Israeli forces."

AL-BAYAN emphasized that this stand shatters all U.S. claims concerning its readiness to adopt a more reasonable and balanced stand on the Middle East. What we maintain is that this U.S.

bias will continue as long as the Arabs do not have the proper response to stop it, the paper concluded.

U.S. Seen Using Gulf War To Intervene in Region

GF211250 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0635 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Apr (WAM) — In its editorial today, the newspaper *AL-WAHDAH* affirmed that the United States is trying to exploit the escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war to justify to other countries its interv. ntion in the region's affairs, as it has been its habit of exploiting differences to impose its control under the slogan of peace and nonaggression.

AL-ITTIHAD said that the U.S. fleet's bombardment of Lebanese positions in the past is evidence that the United States is the real enemy of the peoples and their freedom on all levels. "What is different this time to make the United States show its feigned concern and worry over the security of the Gulf countries and othr countries?" the paper asked.

AL-ITTIHAD called for stopping this war and responding to peace calls which have been made by the nonaligned countries, the Islamic group, and other mediators, because this is the only way to stop the intervention of the United States, "which, shedding crocodile tears and worried over the region's security and safety, is now overtly preparing its fleets to devour the peoples of the region and control it."

Washington 'Exploiting' Escalation of Gulf War

GF201350 ASH-SHARIQAH AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 20 Apr 84 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Such a Suspicious Interest"]

[Text] While the U.S. Congress' Foreign Relations Committee approves a free and unconditional grant of $2.6 billion to our Zionist enemy; while the same committee coupled its decision on a grant to Israel with another underscoring the U.S. Government's decision not to hold any official contacts with the PLO; while U.S. arms deals with some Arab countries are being cancelled as a result of pressure from Israel's supporters in Congress; and while the candidates in the U.S. presidential elections are vying with each other to win Israel's favor — while all this is happening, U.S. officials have been talking for the past few days about their anxiety regarding the possibility of the expansion of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the steps they will take to confront such a possible threat.

U.S. officials have followed up their talk by dispatching a high-ranking official — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy — to harp on the same tune, namely Washington's anxiety on the possibility of the escalation of the war and its expansion to other countries.

We will not comment on these remarks by U.S. officials or on the sudden interest that was absent from the political scene throughout the past 44 months. We will not comment on these remarks, because they express U.S. interests and it is natural for states to seek to serve, protect, and further their interests by all legitimate means — and where the United States is concerned, by all legitimate and illegitimate means. We merely want to pose once again a question to the parties directly concerned with the war: Would the United States have found an opportunity for its open move if this accursed war had ended?

It is the continuation of the war that gives the United States the opportunity to intervene in the affairs of the countries of the region and to openly knock on its doors, when in the past it used to knock on the back windows in search of loopholes and ways in.

It it should come to the region, the United States will not fight anyone. The time has passed when the United States used to intervene militarily as in Korea or Vietnam — it could not even keep less than 2,000 Marines in Lebanon, despite the fact that they were supported by a mighty U.S. fleet and by the allies of the United States, Israel, and the Phalangists.

The United States is exploiting the war's escalation for its own interests and in accordance with its calculations. It does not matter to it which party feeds these calculations.

Therefore, in whose interest is it to maintain the circumstances which give the United States a justification for intervening openly or make it easier for it to find such a justification? Is such a situation compatible with the anti-U.S. slogans that are being raised which describe the United States as Satan and the enemy of peoples?

The escalation of the war, Iran's repeated attempts to penetrate Iraq's international border, and the failure to respond to the mediation of nonaligned, Islamic, and Arab countries will lead to disasters from which only the peoples of the area stand to lose, and only the United States and its allies — and above all Israel, which is usurping Arab lands including Jerusalem — stand to gain.

Perhaps it is high time for those who have been raising anti-U.S. slogans to realize that the only way to confront the United States in the region is to confront Israel. Any other confrontations are secondary and will merely prolong U.S. domination over the Middle East and the Zionist occupation of Arab territory and Jerusalem, to whose Al-Aqsa Mosque the Prophet Muhammad made his nocturnal journey and from which he ascended into heaven.

PDRY

Chairman 'Ali Tours Trade Union Premises

GF231456 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today made an inspection visit to the republic's General Federation of Trade Unions.

The brother chairman praised the role the leadership of the general union and its cadres are playing in implementing the

various YSP resolutions. He emphasized the great significance of the labor movement in the country's revolutionary process.

The brother chairman also visited the *SAWT AL-'UMMALL* establishment and listened to a report on the progress of work and the efforts being made to develop this workers' newspaper. In this regard, he affirmed the need to enhance ideological action among laborers by using all means and methods, including the newspaper *SAWT AL-'UMMAL*. He expressed satisfaction over the efforts being made to develop this newspaper so that it will provide incentives and encouragement to the laborers.

Chairman Sends Congratulations to Kampuchea
GF201530 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent a congratulatory cable to Comrade Heng Samrin, secretary general of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Council, on the occasion of his country's national day.

The cable reads: On the occasion of the celebration of your national day, it is my pleasure to send you my hearty congratulations and good wishes for health and happiness, and to your friendly people wishes for progress and prosperity.

YAR

'Abd al-Ghani Discusses Internal, Regional Issues
GF231607 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 22 Apr 84 p 16

[Interview with Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, by *AS-SIYASAH* correspondent Ba Bakr Hasan Makki in San'a' on 14 April]

[Excerpts] [Makki] You formed your government 5 months ago. No doubt you are facing challenges which you treat as priority. What are the most prominent of these challenges?

['Abd al-Ghani] The greatest challenges are development projects, because we believe that development is our primary cause. That is why we continue the march which we started for economic and social change. Thanks be to God, we have made large strides in this connection, although our start was modest. We can say we started at below zero. Nevertheless, and thanks be to God and thanks to the enthusiasm and response of the Yemeni people, we havve reached a stage which cannot be ignored.

[Makki] Since development is your primary cause, we believe your economic policy is largely based on opening doors for investors, particularly Arab investors. Do you grant investors any unusual facilities, particularly in view of reports about your differences with the Kuwait Investment Company?

['Abd al-Ghani] On the contrary, we grant concessions and facilities to encourage investment. We consider these as the best possible facilities granted to motivate investors, be they national, Arab, or foreign. In fact, we began to set up joint investment companies with Kuwaiti brothers and they are now successful, thanks be to God. These include the Kuwaiti-Yemeni estate company, which set up the Sheraton Hotel and a number of public houses.

To my knowledge, there are differences or political problems. If there are minor problems, they arise as a result of work procedures with Yemeni or Arab investors. We seize this opportunity to express gratitude to Kuwaiti investors who invest their capital here. We only hope that such initiatives will continue and that there will be new wide areas of investment and that facilities granted to investors will benefit us. We welcome investors in industry, agriculture, mines, and tourism.

[Makki] The Palestinian presence in San'a' is distinguished for the presence of the headquarters of the Supreme Military Council of the Palestinian Revolution. However, we expect that your position is sensitive in view of the current Fatah differences.

['Abd al-Ghani] Our dealings with the PLO spring from the fact that the Palestinian cause is the Arab nation's primary cause. Our policy is based on the hope that the Arab nation will succeed in realizing its fateful goals and that there will be at least a minimum of solidarity and consensus. Proceeding from this principle, we also believe that for the Palestinian cause to succeed, decisions should be made by the Palestinian people themselves and that the Palestinian people should define the framework and bases for dealing with the cause.

That is why the differences among Palestinian brothers are their concern. We are making efforts and we seize every opportunity to reconcile Palestinian parties. We are consistent in our policy, both on the Arab level and on the level of our relations with Palestinian brothers. Out of this framework, what is going on the Palestinian scene is the concern of Palestinian themselves and consequently, we respect every decision the Palestinian brothers adopt through their own democratic channels.

[Makki] Assuming that the Palestinian differences resulted in two currents, one of them a call for armed struggle, and the other a call for diplomacy, which would you side with?

['Abd al-Ghani] As I told you, we believe in the unity of the Arab nation and the Arab decision before anything else. We abide by all the Arab resolutions which concern the Palestinian issue, including all the resolutions of the Fes summit. We abide by what the Palestinian brothers decide themselves, and as I said, we support any decision which the Palestinian brothers agree upon.

We have a general goal before us, which is to achieve the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Those rights should be attained, particularly the establishment of a Palestinian state on the Palestinian soil. There are ways and means to achieve this goal. These might change from time to time because of circumstances and other prevailing factors. Thus, we are in favor of any decision which the Palestinians make, because the differences here concern the means and not the ultimate goal. We

believe that there are no difference within the Arab nation on the main goal, but the means, as I said, are disputed from time to time.

[Makki] Is there a Soviet presence in San'a'?

['Abd al-Ghani] We have a good relationship with the Soviet Union. This relationship is an old one and goes back to 1928. We cooperate in various economic, military, cultural, and health matters. We also cooperate with the United States in various fields.

[Makki] I would still like to know if there is a Soviet presence in San'a'?

['Abd al-Ghani] Certainly there are experts in fields in which we cooperate, that is, if there is health cooperation, then there are Soviet doctors, and if the cooperation is cultural then there are experts in this field, and so on.

[Makki] There are many rumors about you, the most recent of which is the rumor that clashes have taken place recently on the borders with Saudi Arabia and that you have captured about 275 Pakistani soldiers.

['Abd al-Ghani] Have you published this?

[Makki] We have not published it, but we have heard and read about it.

['Abd al-Ghani] We have not read or heard this talk. The prime minister, his press secretary, and the associates of the public relations director laughed. Our relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are excellent in all fields, and we have a coordination council which meets periodically. In addition, there are continuous contacts and mutual visits, and there are many Yemeni citizens in Saudi Arabia.

[Makki] Has there been any proposal for you to join the GCC?

['Abd al-Ghani] We are in favor of any step which the Arab countries adopt for our unity, because it is our policy to support everything which leads to the Arab nation's solidarity and unity. We support the establishment of the GCC and support the steps which it is currently taking. Our joining the Council is the affair of the Council and us. If the GCC and Yemen both want this, then this will undoubtedly be a good step in the course of expanding the unity of the Arabian Peninsula, and the unity of the Arab nation from the ocean to the Gulf.

Prime Minister: Draft Unified Constitution Completed

GF221247 Doha QNA in Arabic 0730 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Apr (QNA) — YAR prime minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani has said that the joint ministerial committee of the two parts of Yemen has completed the draft of the unified Yemeni state constitution. The draft will be presented to the leaders of the two parts of Yemen, after which it will be referred to the people's councils of both parts, and then it will be put forth in a general plebiscite.

Mr 'Abd al-Ghani denied Western media reports on the existence of Yemeni precautions regarding the Palestinian military existence in San'a'.

He criticized the U.S. policy in the region, pointing out that the previous unsuccessful experience does not agree with the Arab aspirations.

At the conclusion of his interview, he rejected the belief that the threat in the region comes from the Soviet Union. He described relations between San'a' and Moscow as very good and said that there are Soviet experts who are working in North Yemen in various fields of cooperation.

Ghali Says Relations With Israel 'Cold Peace'

NC240918 Cairo MENA in English 0855 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) — Egyptian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said that peace with Israel is not only cold, but also frozen, due to Israel's intransigence.

In an interview with *AL-AHRAM*, on the eve of the second anniversary of the liberation of Sinai, Dr Ghali, who coined the phrase "cold peace" to express the state of Israeli-Egyptian relations, said that Israel is trying to use the problem of Tabah to bring pressure to bear on Egypt to accelerate normalisation of relations. Dr Ghali blamed Israel for the deteriorating situation in the Mideast, but said that Egypt would pursue its peace efforts.

Tabah is a disputed narrow stretch of land on the Egyptian-Israeli border. When Israel refused to relinquish the area, the two sides agreed to resort to conciliation or arbitration. Three rounds of negotiations in 1982 and 1983 failed to settle the dispute. A fourth round was scheduled, but never materialized because Israel insisted, and Egypt refused, to hold it in Jerusalem.

Israeli Protest on Severed Relations 'Meaningless'

NC240624 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 24 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Today's *AL-JUMHURIYAH* editorializes on Israel's protest over Egypt's severing relations with El Salvador and Costa Rica. It says it is natural that Egypt should reject Israel's protest because it realizes it is a meaningless protest. Also it is considered an attempt by the Israeli Government to interfere in matters that do not concern it. The severance of Egypt's relations with other countries is solely an Egyptian issue, first in its capacity as a power with weight in this part of the world and second, because Egypt is an independent sovereign state with a history and past going back much longer than those of Israel and of all those who created Israel out of nothing.

The paper adds: It is natural that Egypt should reject Israel's protest because Egypt, the primary Arab power, cannot accept any infringement on the status of Arab Jerusalem by any state, no matter which one. It concludes its editorial by saying that Egypt's firm stance on El Salvador and Costa Rica might be a warning to anyone contemplating a similar or comparable stand.

Unified Islamic Stance on Jerusalem Urged

NC231506 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Mahmud 'Atallah commentary: "A Unified Islamic Stance on the Status of Jerusalem"]

[Excerpts] Egypt's decision to sever diplomatic relations with El Salvador and Costa Rica after they moved their embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem underlines its Arab and Islamic affiliationand adherence to its principled stances on the issue of Jerusalem. Egypt's action is compatible with the decision of the Jerusalem Committee which calls on the Islamic states to immediately sever their relations with these two countries and with every state that moves its embassy to Jerusalem.

The compatibility of the two decisions reflects the degree of Egypt's commitment to its Arab and Islamic identity and its insistence on being the first state to make decisions emanating from its principled and firm stance regarding the fateful Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian issue, which Egypt considers to be the core and essence of the Middle East question.

Within the framework of this principled stance, Egypt was and still is opposed to any measure that harms the political and religious rights of the Islamic and Arab peoples, particularly the Palestinian people in Arab Jerusalem. As proof of this, Egypt has always been in the forefront and in a leading position in defense of the Palestinian people and their legitimate rights, including their right to establish a national entity. For the sake of this principle, Egypt sacrificed a great deal of blood and resources. Even during its endeavors for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, Egypt strongly objected to any infringement on the status of Jerusalem because this would create a fundamentatl obstacle to peace efforts. No circumstances succeeded in preventing Egypt's constant affirmation of its stance which opposes infringement on the status of Jerusalem. This was clearly evident in its efforts toward the attempts in the U.S. Congress to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Egypt officially notified the United States of its rejection of such a meausre which is considered as recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital. These efforts were crowned with success when a White House spokesman declared U.S. President Reagan's affirmation of the U.S. Administration's unequivocal objection to moving its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

There is no doubt that the Islamic world is now facing the test to underline its unity and solidarity with the Jerusalem Committee's decision to take the maximum legitimate measure against El Salvador and Costa Rica for moving their embassies to Jerusalem.

Mubarak Receives Husayn, Ershad Messages

NC232114 Cairo MENA in English 2105 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, April 23 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received today two telephone calls from King Husayn of Jordan and Bangladesh Chief Martial Law Administrator Hussain Mohammad Ershad. Ershad had received yesterday a message from President Mubarak on Egypt's proposals for an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

Taha Yasin Ramadan Leaves for Moscow

JN240748 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0618 24 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Apr (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, left Baghdad this morning for Moscow at the head of an Iraqi delegation on a visit to the USSR.

In a statement to INA, Ramadan said that the visit is within the framework of exchanges of visits between Iraqi and Soviet officials and discussions of means of promoting and expanding cooperation between Iraq and the USSR, particularly in economic fields. He added that he will discuss with Soviet officials the most important Arab and international issues of common interest, the Iraq-Iran war, the international community's stand toward this war, and the dangers posed by the Iranian regime's escalation of the war and refusal to respond to any peace initiatives.

The first deputy prime minister praised the developed relations between the two friendly countries, pointing out that the two countries' leaderships are concerned about promoting these relations in all fields in the interest of their two friendly peoples.

The delegation accompanying Ramadan comprises a number of ministers, under secretaries, and other officials.

Trade Agreement Signed With Jordan

JN231539 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1455 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Apr (INA) — Jordan and Iraq signed an agreement on trade exchange here today. On the Iraqi side, the agreement was signed by Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi; on the Jordanian side, it was signed by Dr Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry and trade.

The agreement regulates methods and conditions of payment for sums exceeding the trade exchange volume between Iraq and Jordan. A list of Iraqi commodities that will be exported to Jordan — including oil products — was included in the agreement, as was another list on Jordanian commodities to be exported to Iraq.

Armed Forces Communique No 1,444 - 23 April

JN231613 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1545 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Apr (INA) — An Iraqi military communique states that the Iranian enemy yesterday evening and today shelled Basra, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, and Khurmal and their suburbs with heavy artillery. The communique issued by the Armed Forces General Command added that six civilians were wounded and two schools and one shop were damaged in Basra as a result of the shelling. Several civilian installations were damaged in Mandali, Zurbatiyah, and Khurmal. The communique said that an Iraqi combat patrol attacked Iranian forces east of Basra, forcing them to flee. One gun and a quantity of serviceable military hardware were captured. The communique also stated that Iraqi forward units in the operational sectors destroyed five infantry positions and one 106-mm gun.

The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,444 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With an unflinching determination, the valiant sons of our Armed Forces continue their activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the racist Khomeyniite enemy. The results yesterday and today are as follows:

1. One of our combat patrols carried out a successful attack against an enemy weapons emplacement opposite one of our forward units positions in the operational sector east of Basra, forcing the enemy elements to flee and capturing one gun and a quantity of serviceable military hardware.

2. At various times, one of our forward units shelled enemy positions and troop concentrations in the operational sector east of Tigris, destroying two infantry positions.

3. Three infantry positions and one 106-mm gun were destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. The suspect Khomeyniite regime yesterday evening and today shelled Basra, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, and Khurmal and their suburbs with heavy artillery. As a result of the barbaric enemy shelling, six civilians were wounded, and two schools and one shop were damaged in Basra. Several civilian installations were damaged in Mandali, Zurbatiyah, and Khurmal.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 April 1984

Defector Clergyman Continues Anti-Iranian Remarks

JN211608 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Tehrani, an Iranian clergyman opposing Khomeyni's regime, has emphasized that the Iranian people are incapable of fighting, since their strength has been exhausted. He added that the people who were displaced by the war that the Iranian regime is persistently continuing have no shelter.

Speaking on television in Persian, Tehrani addressed those who hold sway over the Iranian people by saying: The Iraqi people know you quite well, will fight you tooth and nail, and will not allow you to occupy their land or cross their international borders. He called on Khomeyni to confess his sins against the Iranian people.

He exposed the acts of murder and torture that Khomeyni's henchmen are practicing against the Iranian people. He said that these henchmen have even killed the doctors who treated the wounded opposition men. He said that killing is an instinct that satisfies their self-love. Therefore, he added, they are not satisfied with their killing and with their looting of the people's money and property. He gave as an example 'Abbas (Wa'id Sadr), Khomeyni's representative in Mashhad, who has committed crimes against the Iranian people.

Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Tehrani advised clergymen who have a scholarly status not to cooperate with Khomeyni and his henchmen because they do not believe in God.

Khomeyni's Behavior Criticized

JN221400 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1248 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Apr (INA) — 'Ali Tehrani, a clergyman opposed to Khomeyni's regime, has asserted that what is taking place in Iran has nothing to do with true Islam and that Khomeyni and his clique are interested only in remaining in authority and dominating the sons of the Iranian people. Tehrani, brother-in-law of the Iranian regime's President Khamene'i, said that Khomeyni and his followers are not concerned about the people, who cannot secure supplies, housing, and food and who are being exposed to killing, famine, sexual assault, and complete destruction.

In his daily talk in Persian over the Iraqi radio and television, Tehrani said that those who warn Khomeyni and his group against committing crimes are usually destroyed after being accused of thousands of false charges. He also said that those who are dominating the Iranian people do not know the basic principles of Islamic morality, which means guidance, teaching, and advice — principles that have nothing to do with that clique. He also wondered: How can Khomeyni spread Islamic morality, teachings, and refined manners that require him to purify himself first?

Analyzes Regime's Selfishness

GF231439 Baghdad Television in Persian 0900 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Talk in series by Iranian clergyman Hojjat ol-Eslam Tehrani — live or recorded, date not given]

[Excerpts] God has created certain instincts in human beings. The chief among them and the main drive is love of oneself. One loves oneself and thus wishes to attain the ultimate, to achieve good things, and to rid himself of all bad things.

It is because of this selfishness, because one wants to establish one's own opinion, that human beings can also seek revenge. That is to say in order to show one's greatness or impose oneself on people a human being is prepared to live any lie. He will thus lie about the regime before him or the groups opposing him or anyone who may wish to harm him. He would order 500,000 killed in one day if necessary. He would willingly do all this since all of these are a prelude to achieving his goals. Among our religious stories is one saying that each part of the body needs to be washed once but the tongue must be washed twice.

Mr Khomeyni has said that all of the past 50 years' work was less than the work done since the revolution irrespective of all the difficulties faced. He has repeatedly said: Irrespective of all the problems we have faced, we have done more for the people than has been done for them in the past 50 years. He does not sit down and think that money could pay for the work of the past 50 years in 5 years. One could not even detail all the work done in that period. All the organization, even the jails that they built, they have filled them with the children of this nation. Their work is not fundamental. They have built maybe a handful of roads, none of which was designed by engineers. Many of them will be washed out by rain or a flood. Their work is not fundamental as attested to by experts. They still have problems with electricity supplies in cities and now claim that they have electrified villages! They let the villages have a few hours of electricity a week!

What sort of work is this? These are not accomplishments, but regression. The national grid should be completed first. Did they ever build railroad like they [the Pahlavi regime] built? Did they ever build proper roads like them or housing projects such as the Ekbatan in Tehran, which they now claim was left incomplete? Whatever projects you go and cut ribbons for are those that they started. All those factories, they had already paid for them. All the planes and ships that you are importing were paid for by the past regime. One must watch one's tongue over such things. Don't you realize that this is not good propaganda for you but brings you hatred? When people see that you are telling lies and saying things like that, then they start to hate you. They say: Look at the great lies they are telling to impose themselves on us!

They will hate you. By God, I believe they should go, die, or be destroyed right now, and the nation will rejoice. They will throw a party many times the size of the one they threw when the shah left. The nation will be exceedingly happy. That's what they have done. Constant denial and instigation of people to rise against the regime of oppression is important before victory — the truthful way, of course. Islam only accepts the true way. Afterward, you have to show achievements. One can issue a lot of advice from the side but once you are on the stump your sermon should be captivating. Your government, your system, economic values, security, culture, industry must be your propaganda. That is what the nation wants from you after victory.

Repeated denial has nothing of value. You are very selfish. Your warmongering — this damned war between Iran and Iraq which is a war against the holy Koran and is causing the death of so many Muslims — the many handicapped for whom you have imported factories to build spare limbs — stems from this selfishness, this narcissism, this lack of any control over your instinct of self-love. You only want to make your utterances reality. There is religious decadance in Iran; there is moral decadance at very high levels. I shall talk about it in future. You now want to export this to another country.

They have lied so much in their radio and television, about everything at home and abroad, that now nobody even listens to them if they speak the truth. The popular opinion is that if the radio and television air a religious lecture, people will even turn against religion. This is because they are against the people. They see that the regime acts contrary to its own words, against Islam, and that they are not able to follow their own advice. This has an adverse effect on society. My words will only affect others if I abide by them. If I come and praise the constitution, say that it is not contrary to Islam and people must vote for it and act according to it and then step on all of it myself, would people pay any attention to this constitution? If I come and say that oppression, embezzlement, plunder, and violation of others' rights are wrong, all the things that Islam bans, or if I say that corruption

is bad and then do all these when I am right at the top... [sentence incomplete]

Then all of a sudden it start to come out; it starts to smell and purge follows purge. People see these. They say that it is obvious that the mullahs have read only the cover of the book. Such things have an adverse effect. By God, I believe that if their radio and television only had music and carried unsutiable stories and pictures, it would be better for Islam than this. They are destroying people's belief in Islam because of their own impurity. The more they try to spread Islam, the more suspicious people will become.

The guards, the Mobilization people, the army should go home. The Iraqi nation has realized what they have done in Iran. It will defend itself tooth and nail. International law will not allow one small country to do this to another. One of his [Khomeyni] representatives who came to Iran 3 years ago told us that all the Iranian Shi'ites living in the Gulf countries are against this regime.

King Husayn Leaves for Saudi Arabia 24 Apr

JN241000 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0940 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Amman, 24 Apr (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn left Amman this morning for Saudi Arabia on an official visit, during which he will meet with His Majesty Saudi King Fahd to discuss the recent developments and fraternal relations between the two countries.

His majesty is accompanied by Ahmad 'Ubaydat, prime minister; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; and Ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

His majesty was seen off by His Highness Prince Muhammad, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, the Senate president, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the deptuy prime minister and interior minister, the ministers, senior civilian and military officials, and the Saudi charge d'affaires in Amman.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan took the constitutional oath as regent in the presence of the ministers during his majesty's absence from the homeland.

House Approves Border Treaty With Iraq

JN231746 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Amman — The House of Representatives at its session today approved a bill ratifying the border treaty between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Republic of Iraq and the two protocols attached to the treaty.

Iraqi Survey Team Prospecting for Oil

JN231052 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Amman, 23 Apr (INA) — An Iraqi seismological survey team has emphasized the presence of commercial quantities of crude oil in the Jordanian areas that are being surveyed.

A source in the team told INA today that the surveys are continuing in various parts of Jordan. He added that the Iraqi team has so far surveyed 1,219 km of Jordanian territory, covering the Al-Qatranah area in central Jordan, the Irbid and Ar-Ramtha area in the north, and the Al-Azraq area in the east.

He indicated that seismological data and specimens are being processed and analyzed by the Iraqi National Oil Company in Baghdad.

The Iraqi working team began surveying the Jordanian territory in May last year according to cooperation program Iraq and Jordan signed in 1981.

Soviet Friendship Delegation Makes Visit

Meets 'Ubaydat

JN231348 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat received in his office today Makhmut Kurbanov, minister of light industry in UzSSR and head of the USSR friendship delegation, and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, which was attended by Bahjat at-Talhuni, chairman of the Jordanian-USSR Friendship Society, and USSR ambassador in Amman, Rafik Nishanov, the two sides reviewed relations of friendship and cooperation between Jordan and the Soviet Union.

Envoy Speaks at Celebration

JN231205 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Apr 84 p 26

[Text] Amman, *AD-DUSTUR* — Rafik Nishanov, USSR ambassador to Jordan, has affirmed that Moscow supports developing and expanding cooperation between the USSR and both Jordan and the Arab countries on the basis of equal rights and mutual respect to strengthen Soviet-Jordanian and Soviet-Arab friendship. He valued the big popular manifestation of Jordanian-Soviet friendship, which coincides with Jordan's current celebration of Jordanian-Soviet friendship days with the participation of an UzSSR delegation led by Makhmut Kurbanov. Nishanov said: We highly value this fact particularly since Their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur have patronized and personally participated in these friendship days.

Speaking at a celebration held by the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society on the occasion of the 114th anniversary of Valdimir Ilich Lenin's birthday and attended by the Society's President, Bahjat at-Talhuni, a number of Arab and foreign ambassadors, and a large number of Jordanian functionaries, Nishanov said the USSR has in the past and will continue to support the Arab people's just rights and struggles against Israeli aggression. He added that Moscow supports providing the Palestinian people, who are struggling under their sole and legitimate representative — the PLO — with the freedom to embody their full national rights, including the right to establish their independent state.

Nishanov noted the tense situation in the Middle East and in the world in general and said there is a certain imperialist state that is responsible for this tense situation because it is currently emphasizing the spirit of confrontation in the international arena and increasing tension throughout the world. He added that this imperialist state carries out armed adventures against sovereign countries and steps up the arms race in an unprecedented manner. He noted that the USSR exerts great efforts to preserve and maintain peace, avoid the threat of nuclear war to humanity, and deepen international cooperation for exchanged benefits.

Nishanov affirmed that Moscow supports the domination of peace in the Middle East to enable the countries in the region to direct their efforts toward development and progress. He stressed

the need to reach a just settlement to the Middle East problem. He said the Arab-Israeli conflict can only be solved through joint efforts by holding an international conference in which the USSR, the United States, and the parties concerned — including the PLO — will participate.

Nishanov said Moscow supports the development of the Lebanese republic as an indivisible unit and a sovereign and democratic Arab state. He added that this can be achieved through reaching a just Lebanese internal settlement — a settlement that basically includes an immediate and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Syrian Minister of Communications Arrives

JN231530 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Ar-Ramtha, 23 Apr (PETRA) — Syrian Minister of Communications Muhammad Ra'fat al-Kurdi arrived in Amman via Ar-Ramtha at noon today, heading a delgation that will participate in the seventh ordinary session of the Arab Space Communications Organization's general assembly. The 2-day session will begin here tomorrow.

The minister was received by the Irbid governor, the director general of the telecommunications corporation, Ar-Ramtha district officers, the police chief, and a number of other officials.

King Husayn Receives Omani Minister, Message

JN211220 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received in Aqaba today the Omani foreign minister, Yusuf al-'Alawi. The Omani foreign minister conveyed to his majesty the king a message from His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman on the current Arab situation and coordination between the two fraternal countries on issues of common concern.

Interior Minister 'Arar Returns From Morocco

JN201845 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister, returned to Amman this evening following a 1-week official visit to Morocco during which he conveyed a message from His Majesty King Husayn to His Majesty King Hassan II, dealing with the current situation in both the Arab and international arenas, and the importance of adopting a unified Arab stand on all the events and dangers the Arab nation is facing. 'Arar said this message is one of several that King Husayn sent to various Arab leaders concerning the significance of achieving Arab solidarity in the current phase.

Prince Hasan Criticizes Israeli Plans, U.S. Aid

JN231450 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Amman — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan said that the Zionist entity, which has spread in Palestine and other Arab lands, is proceeding to Judaize the territories, eliminate the personal and cultural Palestinian existence, desecrate holy shrines, and confiscate land, water resources, and the means of honorable living. His highness has also asserted that continued U.S. military and economic support for that entity has enabled Israel to adopt a more extreme policy in the Middle East region — a policy aimed at entrenching aggression, denying human rights and basic freedoms, and foiling efforts to achieve a just and lasting peace.

In the opening speech at the Arab Thought Forum held at the Royal Cultural Center, and given in his capacity as chairman of the forum's Council of Trustees, his highness added that the Arab homeland is sufferring from disruption, fighting among brothers, fabricating pretexts for polarization, wasted efforts, and contradiction of positions. He asserted that the events in Lebanon had projected Arab weakness, political barrenness, military weakness, and humiliation on international platforms.

His highness the crown prince called for implementing the strategy of joint Arab action, filling the wide gap between the standards of living, and realizing the minimum limit of economic and social integration through a comprehensive Arab — rather than regional — development. He stressed the importance of consultations and popular participation in decisionmaking that will leave its imprint on human life and the future of coming generations.

Recent Diplomatic Moves Hailed as Effective

JN230950 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Apr 84 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "The Pioneering Step"]

[Text] During the past 2 days, Egypt has confirmed its position as an Arab and Islamic state of special and distinguished standing within the two regional groups — the Arab League and the ICO — which have suffered from weaknesses and retreats during the past few years, as well as being stricken with disunity and disintegration through Egypt's expulsion or departure.

The honorable stands initiated by the Egyptian Government during the past 2 days, taking into consideration what the Egypt been through in both the Arab and Islamic arenas during these years, deserves praise and appreciation from the Arab and Islamic nations because of the pioneer and important nature of these stands, which in turn stresses the special and distinguished role assumed traditionally by Egypt throughout its modern history.

Egypt, which only recently returned to the ICO, by taking the initiative of severing relations with El Salvador as a punishment to that country which has no embassy in any Arab capital except Cairo, has confirmed its clear and firm adherance to the resolutions of the various institutions and organs of the ICO. At the

same time, there are clear signs embedded in this initiative for any other country which transfers its embassy to the holy city, even if this country is the United States.

The importance of such a brave Egyptian step does not stop at only reviving its historical role in the Arab and Islamic groups. It goes beyond this to what may be considered another step along the road to getting rid of the Camp David commitments and policies which were aimed at distorting Egypt's noble face and cutting off its ties with its wide Arab surroundings.

Perhaps the quick and loud Israeli protests over this very effective Egyptian role, stress the reality of Israel's understanding of the nature of peace with Egypt which is based on considerations of superiority, dictation, and subjugation without any appreciation of Egypt's weight and its radiant Arab and Islamic history.

While we believe that the past few years have been a real test for Egypt's Arabism, its true values, and the purity of its great people. We are deeply confident that the Arab nation can only regain all its effectiveness and strength through Egypt practicing its special distinguished pioneer role once again in the arena of joint Arab action. This is a matter that calls for quickly opening all doors for the true Arab Egypt, and extending all possible bridges toward it.

AD-DUSTUR Views Jerusalem Committee Decisions

JN220911 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 22 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Clear Sign to Washington," *AD-DUSTUR* says: The resolutions adopted by the Jerusalem Committee in the presence of representatives and ministers of 14 Islamic member countries present, under the current Arab and Islamic circumstances, a step toward joint Islamic action which, like joint Arab action, suffers from weakness and dismemberment.

Perhaps the most important achievement of the committee, after 2 days of discussions which were not devoid of familiar differences, is its decision to call for severing diplomatic relations between the Islamic countries and both Costa Rica and El Salvador, which transferred their embassies to occupied Jerusalem; and to apply the Islamic boycott law against individuals, governments, and companies that encourage the Judaization of occupied Jerusalem. Undoubtedly, the Islamic countries' adherence to this decision represents an important start for the Islamic countries' entry into the boycott arena, thereby giving added support to the Arab countries. Moreover, this decision, whose practical implementation demands separate diplomatic measures by every Islamic country, is a clear sign to the United States, where tentative moves are under way, particularly in the Congress, to transfer the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem.

AD-DUSTUR adds: The Jerusalem Committee has done well to realize the U.S. Administration's attempts to appease the Jewish vote in the approaching presidential elections through establishing the so-called liaison office in Jerusalem instead of transferring the embassy to the holy city. The committee regarded such a decision as a flagrant violation of Security Council Resolution 478, which was adopted in 1980 and does not regard Jerusalem as the united capital of the Zionist entity.

The achievement of the Jerusalem Committee is a good result whose importance cannot be lessened if the committee's recommendations are translated into open and implemented resolutions. This is because the mere formation of this committee and its meeting in an urgent manner under the current circumstances affirms the holy city's special status to nearly 1 billion Muslims who can, if they unite their ranks, liberate Jerusalem and remove the effects of its occupation.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: While we deeply believe that Jerusalem deserves a more effective Islamic action than what has been achieved in the Moroccan city of Fes, we cannot, nonetheless, deny the importance of these resolutions that have to be implemented and followed up in order to do something for the holy city in terms of halting, at least at this stage, the measures that are aimed at Judaizing it. However, these resolutions also demand that the committee's chairmanship and the ICO's General Secretariat exert efforts not only to implement these resolutions, but also to prepare the atmosphere in the Islamic countries for a wider confrontation with the United states and other countries, which could be tempted, like El Salvador and Costa Rica, at the first sign of slackness by the Arabs and Muslims.

AR-RA'Y Calls for Better Arab-Egyptian Relations

JN230850 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 23 Apr 84 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Will Jerusalem Unify the Arab Ranks?"]

[Text] A few hours after the Jerusalem Committee had called on the Islamic countries to sever their diplomatic relations with El Salvador and Costa Rica because they had moved their embassies from Tel Aviv to the holy city, Egypt responded to the call and severed its diplomatic relations with these two countries. It also rejected an Israeli protest against this response and emphasized through its foreign minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, that its stand toward Jerusalem and its Arabism is a firm and principled one.

The firm and quick Egyptian measure has greatly angered Israeli officials. The Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee chairman said that this measure raises fears about Egypt's return to the Arab fold and that it is the outcome of Israeli moderation toward Egypt.

Thus, Egypt did not hesitate to put its stand into practice. It has become natural to ask: Is it not time for the Arabs to translate their belief in the importance and positivity of Egypt's role into practices that open the door for Egypt's return to the Arab fold and for the restoration of diplomatic relations with it?

The Arabs should not treat El Salvador and Costa Rica equally on the one hand, with Egypt on the other by calling for severing diplomatic relations with these two states, which antagonize the Arabs and stab Jerusalem, and by maintaining severed Arab

diplomatic relations with Arab Egypt, which has proven its commitment to the Jerusalem Committee's recommendations by implementing them immediately.

Egypt's return to the Arab fold is worthy of support and serious work. It should not be a topic of hesitation and unnecessary sensitivities. Such a return will undoubtedly give impact and strength to the joint Arab action in the region and in the international arena. Moreover, it will be a step toward building the aspired Arab solidarity.

The difficult stage of our cause and the military, economic, and political challenges that are threatening the nation call for speeding up the mobilization of the Arab powers, including Egypt, so that the Arabs can confront hostile strategies aimed against them and so they can push their cause ahead toward a just solution by which they can restore the occupied territory, mainly Jerusalem, especially after they have realized that no one can bring them a solution on a silver platter.

Sham'un, Al-Wazzan Meet Al-Jumayyil, Make Statement
NC231344 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has resumed his meetings and consultations with political leaders. This morning he received former President Camille Sham'un and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and briefed them on the results of the Damascus summit. After the meeting, Sham'un spoke to our correspondent at the Presidential Palace:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] I believe you have just met with President al-Jumayyil within the framework of current consultations for the formation of a new government. Could you brief us on this meeting?

[Sham'un] The consultations were not related to the formation of a new government. We generally reviewed developments on the basis of the president's visit to Damascus and the lengthy talks between him and Syrian officials. All I can say is that the president's discussion is reassuring in relation to the establishment of normal relations between us and our Syrian neighbors and in relation to the consolidation of the cease-fire. This is very important to Lebanese public opinion. We hope the cease-fire will be maintained because all the people and parties are eager to bring about stability and security. The discussion with the president reviewed the Lebanese developments following his talks with Syrian officials.

[Reporter] It is known that a political atmosphere cannot be fruitful unless it is translated into actual deeds. These deeds include political and field aspects. Do you expect that the Damascus talks will soon be translated into deeds in the field?

[Sham'un] I believe that the first thing to be translated in the field is the present calm prevailing in various areas. This is a good sign. We hope it will continue. The other aspect is the formation of a government of national unity. I believe this is going to occur soon. If the two matters are accomplished we can then optimistically hope for the future and for understanding among all Lebanese factions.

[Reporter] Do you expect the birth of a new government this week?

[Sham'un] Consultations are beginning this week and may be concluded by the weekend or the beginning of next week.

[Reporter] Are you prepared to participate in the new government?

[Sham'un] Thus far no such proposal has been made.

[Reporter] Thank you. [end recording]

President al-Jumayyil then received Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. After the meeting, the prime minister spoke to our reporter:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] You have just met with the president. I believe the discussion dealt with the Lebanese-Syrian summit. Can you brief us on your impression of the summit?

[Al-Wazzan] I have nothing to add to what the media have already told the people. There is nothing new to add regarding the summit because the people know about all that has happened. What is important now is the unification of efforts and current consultations for the formation of a government of national unity that will include all parties in order that Lebanon may emerge from the abyss. I believe this is the correct course and the duty of all of us. It is an opportunity and test of all intentions. We hope that we will all live up to the expectation of the Lebanese people who definitely want an end to past and present events in order to open a new book for our sons and generations to come so that the people can live and restore all their well-known capabilities. The Lebanese despair must not be allowed to continue. We must seek the restoration of all Lebanese capabilities to be utilized in building a new Lebanon, God willing.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, do you hope that a government of national unity will be formed soon?

[Al-Wazzan] Yes, God willing. [end recording]

Implementation of Disengagement Plan Continues
uf subheadDeployment Meets Obstacles
NC231235 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] This report begins with the security situation and the disengagement of forces, which has not been completed as scheduled. The beginning was very successful, and the cease-fire has been holding in the wake of the Damascus summit last Thursday. However, the Internal Security Forces deployment met certain obstacles in the mountain and in Beirut. Within this framework, the quadripartite security committee held a meeting at 1115 to discuss certain problems that prevented the completion of the disengagement process between the warring factions in some areas of the mountain and Beirut. The problem on the mountain relates to the clearance of mines, according to security sources. An Army engineering unit went to Suq al-Gharb, 'Aytat, 'Alayh, and Shuwayf for this purpose. The clearance operation is to be followed by the deployment of disengagement forces. Today the security committee is tackling the problem in the Primo area in Beirut. The committee is expected to reach a positive solution that will allow for the completion of the disengagement process.

New Clashes Reported
NC231750 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1650 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Clashes have been taking place for some time now along the Damascus-Sodeco Road. The Security Arrangements Committee is now tackling the matter. A security source said the clash that took place earlier has not affected the presence of the

disengagement forces in the positions they occupied 2 days ago. This is the third security setback since the beginning of the disengagement process.

Colonel Jean Nasif, the Army's representative to the Security Arrangements Committee, his assistant Colonel Samir Ruhana, and Sa'id Dawi, representative of the Progressive Socialist Party, went to the mountain area at 1300 this afternoon to supervise the mutual withdrawals, which were scheduled to take place in the areas of Suq al-Gharb, 'Aytat, Kayfun, and Qurs al-Mudawwar.

As for the posts in Shwit, 'Arayya, and Dahr al-Wahsh, members of the Internal Security Forces have taken positions in buildings other than those originally assigned because mines were discovered in the latter buildings. The committee will resume its meetings immediately after the return of Colonel Nasif to Beirut in order to deal with the problems that are still preventing the stationing of the disengagement forces along the Damascus-Primo Road.

National Forces Adhere to Plan

NC231827 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The security situation violently deteriorated this evening at a time when the Security Arrangements Committee's measures pertaining to the disengagement of the forces are continuing. Security sources report the wounding or death of innocent victims, whose number cannot be determined because of the heavy fire, particularly in the areas of Khandaq al-Ghamiq, Ra's an-Nab', and Bishara al-Khuri. The sources affirmed that the national forces are abiding by the cease-fire within the framework of the disengagement of forces plan and that they are exercising self-restraint and are not returning the fire as a contribution on their part to the success of the peace efforts and to the avoidance of more bloodshed and destruction.

Phalangists Blamed for Obstacles

NC231923 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The worsening security situation continues to be the subject of attention and steady efforts to contain its consequences and ramifications before it deteriorates even further. Security sources said Phalangist forces are besieging a building in Bishara al-Khuri in which a Lebanese security buffer force is stationed. Reports say a member of the Lebanese security forces was killed by the Phalangist militias surrounding the building. A heavy movement of vehicles in the direction of the Bank of Syria and Lebanon has been reported.

Guarded Calm in Primo Area

NC240644 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The hindered deployment of disengagement forces in the Primo area in Beirut yesterday raises several questions about the underlying intentions. Observers following up developments in the field ask why forces so far have not been deployed in this area where sporadic clashes are taking place. However, guarded calm prevails now in the Primo area up to the commercial area following yesterday's security setback and clashes in which heavy weapons and tankfire were used. Shells landed on nearby areas particularly in Khandaq al-Ghamiq. Several civilians and men from the disengagement forces were killed or wounded. Clashes broke out on the Damascus Road axis down to the commercial area, which continued until the night and during which several people were killed or wounded. The clashes abated after a cease-fire was reached at 2000.

The Security Arrangements Committee succeeded in bringing about a disengagement of forces between 'Aytat and Suq al-Gharb in the mountain, and little remains to be achieved on this front. The committee will resume its meeting today to resolve the problem in the Primo area, which delayed the deployment of the disengagement forces.

President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil was briefed yesterday by the acting director general of Internal Security Forces on the progress of the disengagement process. A source in the Security Arrangements Committee this morning said that no French observers were wounded in yesterday's clashes but that one enlisted man was martyred and several civilians and members of the disengagement forces were wounded. The source expected that the problem in the Primo area would be settled at today's committee meeting.

Observers Under Fire

NC240841 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] At 0930 the cease-fire observers' posts in the Primo area came under volleys of sniper fire, originating from the armed men's positions on the opposite side near the Kayrallah station. The observers have reported this development to the Security Arrangements Committee.

The four-man Security Arrangements Committee is preparing to hold its meeting at the racecourse, pending the arrival of all its members. The committee will discuss completion of the implementation of the final phase of deploying the disengagement forces in the sector of the capital and in the 'Ayn Hulwah area on the mountain.

Observers Kidnapped

NC241142 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Our correspondent reports that members of the factional army kidnapped the two observers, Sulayman Zu'Aytir and Jamil Muhammad Hasan, stationed on the Suq al-Gharb-Kayfun front. Members of this group also kidnapped Muhsin Sa'd and Salah Sus while inspecting their quarters in the observation post. The atmosphere deteriorated in the wake of this barbaric operation that threatens to aggravate the situation if the four kidnapped persons are not released quickly. The factional army and Phalangist gangs in the Gaumont Palace area dis-

armed members of the observer force deployed in the Alpha Building after cursing them and expelling them from their positions. They told the observers: Let the Amal Movement come and retrieve your weapons.

Meanwhile, it has been reported that the factional army in the [word indistinct] Shimlan area kidnapped a number of citizens claiming they were Palestinian elements. The security committee, which commenced its meeting at 1045 and which is still going on, is attempting to tackle the violations perpetrated by the factional army and the Phalangist gangs.

Disengagement Being Hindered

NC241252 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] At today's meeting, the quadripartite security committee reached agreement to complete the deployment of the disengagement and observers force this afternoon on a number of Beirut's axes that had experienced problems yesterday resulting in violent clashes during which several members of the disengagement force and citizens were martyred or wounded. The agreement stipulates that the deployment of observers will begin as of 1500 today in the Primo and the Greek Catholic bishopric area, in at-Tibbiyah, and at the judicial police [as heard] garrison behind the military court.

At the end of the Security Arrangements Committee's meeting at approximately 1230 violent clashes broke out in the Sodeco and the commerical area, during which rockets and machine gun fire were used. There was also sniper fire. The committee is now working to check this security setback.

The sudden explosion in the security situation today has raised several questions by observers about fabricated obstacles in the field by some parties that do not want the crisis to end. This is evident in the delay in handing over certain posts in the Primo area to the disengagement forces as agreed by all parties during the meetings held by the Security Arrangements Committee. Well-informed sources say that the objective of this explosion in the security situation is to hinder the positive aspects agreed upon during the opposition leaders' talks with senior Syrian officials and to cover up the Israeli enemy's actions in the south, be they direct actions or through the enemy's agents, particularly the so-called southern army of Lebanon. This explosion in the security situation seems to complement the stances adopted yesterday by certain leaderships who rejected and hindered the formation of a government of national unity.

Further Reportage on Damascus Meetings

Karami Meets With Al-Asad

NC231854 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Speaking in Damascus today, [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami called on the Lebanese to unite around the common denominators established on a scientific and realistic basis in order to create an independent state.

After a meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, which was attended by Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri, Karami said: We discussed with President al-Asad all aspects of the solutions reached during the Syrian-Lebanese summit. He added: It is no longer permissible for the Lebanese Government to continue, for sectarian or class reasons, to suffer under the vestiges of past ages. Karami stressed the need to continue the struggle through all means in order to liberate southern Lebanon from Israeli occupation. He expressed his admiration and appreciation for the escalating Lebanese national resistance against the occupation.

Answering a question on whether the discussions during his meeting with President al-Asad touched upon the question of forming a government of national unity, Karami said: The government is a means of implementing the program and serving the aims agreed upon. It is natural that we should take an interest in this issue if we want to serve Lebanon. Answering another question whether he would head the new government, Karami said: This depends on personal reasons and on constitutional norms and traditions. We are ready to work within the principles that we believe will realize our aims. We will therefore do nothing to lay mines along the path.

Walid Junblatt and Marwan Hamadah left Damascus for Paris this afternoon to meet with French President Francois Mitterrand.

Karami News Conference

JN231934 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1715 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] This afternoon President al-Asad received [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami in the presence of Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar'. Later, Nabih Birri and Junblatt joined the meeting. During the meeting, the discussion dealt with the situation in the Lebanese arena, the efforts under way to reach national accord and form a national unity government in order to move to the stage of reconstruction and to liberate the Lebanese territories from the Israeli invaders after ironing out the obstacles hampering these efforts.

Karami and Birri had lunch with President Hafiz al-Asad. Foreign Minister ash-Shar'; Wahib Fadil, minister for presidential affairs; and Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh were present. Walid Junblatt has left for Paris accompanied by Marwan Hamadah.

Prime Minister Karami held a news conference after this. He said: The crisis Lebanon has been experiencing for the past 10 years, during which Syria has stood at our side to assist us in warding off the dangers that surround us, particularly those emanating from Zionism and colonialism. [sentence as heard]. Karami added: From the beginning, we have called for national accord and for political reforms that would restore the balance and enable a participation in government. This would redress the march and bridge the gaps which have long been exploited in order to prolong the dispute among the Lebanese.

Karami said: During the Geneva and Lausanne stage, we worked on the one hand to entrench the Lebanese Arab identity, and on the other hand to oil the 17 May agreement. This has been achieved through the Geneva conference. Then there was the Lausanne summit, which discussed the aspired reforms, which would be made on democratic bases and with principles of justice and equality. the various parties submitted their proposals — such as establishing a federal union and abolishing political sectarianism. In light of all this, the president of the republic submitted a draft proposal containing principles that constited a common denominator among all the proposals. Karami said: However — and despite all of this — we failed to reach any agreement in Lausanne. In my opinion, what took place in Lausanne was the introduction to the Lebanese-Syrian summit which was recently held, because the concepts and principles contained in the president's proposal paved the way for a discussion on how to reach agreement on a program that may be adopted as an introduction to national accord and salvation.

Karami added: In our meeting with President al-Asad today, we discussed all of these issues and became acquainted with the aspects of the solutions that had been reached in principle and which we are still consultating about among ourselves. We stress that we consider President al-Asad to be the basic guarantee of our march, principles, and objectives because he has a clear vision, sound thinking, and a knowlege of the facts.

We shall continue to work so that the two countries will adopt one position for the sake of defending right and for tha sake of liberating the south, in particular, as well as Lebanon in general and the entire Middle East region from the factors of fragmentation and conflict.

Karami said: I feel optimistic every time I have a meeting with President al-Asad, becasue we know that he is faithful, sincere, and loyal.

In reply to a question on his view of the future and of building a new Lebanon, Karami said: We have to struggle with all means in order to liberate our country from Israeli occupation. On this occasion, we would like to express all of our appreciation and pride in the Lebanese national resistance, which is daily struggling against the Israeli occupation and is inflicting more victims and losses on it. This affects Israel's economy and politics.

Karami said: After these bitter experiences, the Lebanese must close ranks, unite their efforts, and discard grudges and chauvinism from their hearts. We frankly say that had it not been for our differences and disputes, we would not have reached the point where we are now. What is needed is a return to principles and genuineness, and a return to our love and faith both in God and in our people for sparing all of our citizens from more suffering and for working for construction and development. This is because it is not permissible for us to demolish our own homes over our heads.

Karami was asked about his views on the results of the summit that was held between Presidents al-Asad and al-Jumayyil. Karami said: Undoubtedly, the solutions on which agreement may be reached in light of the contradiction that exists in the arena and the disputes which lasted that long must constitute the common factors over which there will be a Lebanese consensus. [sentence as heard] However, these also must be based on scientific and realistic foundations, in order to enable us to establish the real and modern independent state based on the progress that has been achieved in our era. This is because it is inadmissible for our country's system of government to remain burdened by the vestiges of the past for sectarian or class reasons. Karami added: In reality, the government is a means for attaining a program and the one that serves the objectives on which agreement has been reached. That's why it is natural for us to devote our attention to this matter if we really want to achieve what would serve Lebanon and end its tribulation.

Asked whether he will be the one to form the Lebanese Government, Karami said: One cannot answer such a question, because it depends on many considerations — some dealing with me personally and others having to do with democratic and constitutional procedures.

Birri Meets Khaddam

NC232118 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri and former Minister Khalid Junblatt met in Damascus tonight with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Khaddam had earlier returned from Riyadh after meeting with the Saudi King and briefing him and Saudi officials on the efforts to settle the situation in Lebanon, achieve accord, and liberate the south.

In a statement tonight, Birri said that the meeting with Syrian President Al-Asad today touched upon the question of the level of participation of the Amal Movement and the Progressive Socialist Party in the next government of national unity and that it was agreed to follow up this question during later meetings.

VOL Speculates on Shape of Next Cabinet

NC231823 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] The formation of the new cabinet assumed priority in the current contacts despite the setback in the security situation that took place on the Sodeco-Primo-Al-Barjawi axis due to technical problems concerning the deployment of the buffer forces. The next cabinet, according to informed political sources, could be formed along the following lines:

[Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami is the most prominent and likely candidate to form this cabinet. It has been understood that agreement was reached [words indistinct] in the summit. However, some things are required of him and some problems need to be resolved both on the personal level and the general political level. If Karami is prepared to agree to these things — in the contacts which are taking place with him in Damascus now — he will be asked to form the government in the next few days. But if it is impossible to resolve these matters or if Karami personally thinks that he cannot undertake the task now, another person may be asked — and this is most unlikely, according to the informed sources.

The sources add that if Karami is asked to form the cabinet, it is agreed that ministers of state from among the prominent leaders will be appointed. They will be given certain protocol privileges consistent with their public importance.

The ministerial portfolios will be given to representatives of the various influential leaders and political forces. It is also agreed that the parliamentary character will dominate the broad cabinet, although it is envisaged that it will also include some experts and technocrats to tackle affairs resulting from years of tragedy in the economic, construction, education, and other fields. The cabinet will also include some young ministers.

Antiaircraft Fire Directed at French Helicopter

NC231252 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Today antiaircraft fire was directed at a French helicopter that was flying toward the military beach [in Beirut]. Our correspondent reports that the source of fire was the St George area.

Kidnappings in West Beirut; Salam Receives Arms

NC231512 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The fate of about 50 Shi'ites, some belonging to the Amal Movement, remains unknown after the Communist action organization refused to release them on the pretext that Amal is holding some abducted Palestinians and Communists. Armed men appeared today in the inner streets of West Beirut, where checkpoints were set up. Members of the 6th Brigade were kidnapped at these checkpoints after being stripped of their weapons. Informed sources today said [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam is working to militarily reorganize his Sunnite supporters by supplying them with various types of arms that he recently received from an Arab state.

Al-Asad Receives Lebanon's Karami, Holds Talks

JN231549 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] At 1240 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Rashid Karami, former Lebanese Prime Minister. Faruq ash-Shar', foreign minister, attended the meeting. At 1340 today, Nabih Birri, Amal Movement leader, and Walid Junblatt, Progressive Socialist Party leader, joined the meeting. The talks during the meeting revolved around the situation in the Lebanese arena, the efforts being exerted to realize national accord, the formation of a national unity government, and movement to the phase of construction and liberation — thus liberating the Lebanese territories from the Israeli invaders and overcoming the obstacles hampering these efforts.

Karami and Birri had lunch with the president. Faruq ash-Shar',foreign minister, and Wahib Fadil, minister for presidential affairs,attended the banquet.

Karami Makes Statement

JN231848 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Following his meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad, Rashid Karami, former Lebanese prime minister, made a statement to the television correspondent.

[Begin Karami recording] We emphasize that President Hafiz al-Asad — with his knowledge of facts, his vision, and his sound thinking — is a basic guarantee for our march, principles, and objectives. We have always said the two countries are twins, and have joint interests. Therefore, we will continue to exert our efforts to make the two countries adopt one position for the sake of defending rights and for the sake of liberating the south, in particular, as well as Lebanon and the region in general, from all factors of fragmentation and conflict. This is how we can obtain the strongest weapon — the weapon of solidarity in the face of all enemies. I feel optimistic every time I visit the president, because we know that he is faithful, honest, and sincere. [end recording]

APN Says Syria 'Impregnable Bastion' of Defense

JN232004 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow, 23 Apr (SANA) — The Soviet news agency APN said Syria's defense capability, which has been strengthened and enlarged, and the Soviet-Syrian treaty of friendship and cooperation currently form an impregnable bastion in defense of the freedom and independence of Syria and the other Arab countries.

In a commentary today, APN said the solidarity of struggle between the family of socialist states and the forces of progress on the one hand, and Syria on the other has helped Syria be transformed into a fortress for the Arab masses in their struggle against U.S. ambitions and Israeli expansionism. APN pointed out that Syria's will and determination under President Hafiz al-Asad have helped fraternal Lebanon to break the shackles of the unjust 17 May agreement, to change the course of internal events toward dialogue and national reconciliation, to deal a blow to the attempts at reactivating the Camp David agreement, and to open the way for solving the major issues in the region through political dialogue.

The news agency stressed Moscow's special interest in the efforts Syria and its leadership are making to unify Arab ranks on a nationalist, anti-imperialist basis with the aim of ensuring a just, comprehensive solution to the Middle East conflict and foiling U.S. and Israeli attempts to impose separate deals on the Arabs.

APN praised Syria's struggle to liberate all the occupied Arab territories, restore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to self-determination, establish the national independent Palestinian state, and support world national liberation movements. The agency pointed out that Syria has become the focus of political activity in the region, as Arab personages arrive to consult with the Syrian leaders on all issues that are of interest to the Arabs and to the states in the region as a whole.

Cabinet Reviews Current Political Situation

JN231202 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Damascus — Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, prime minister, presided over a Cabinet meeting at 1100 today. The meeting began with a political review of the current situation in the region. Dr al-Kasm clarified a number of affairs concerning the current situation in the region as well as the results of the Lebanese talks, which were held in an atmosphere of understanding and desire to achieve national accord and rescue Lebanon from its ordeal.

Al-Kasm emphasized that Syria offered and is still offering all that is dictated by the pan-Arab fraternity linking the two countries for the sake of Lebanon's sovereignty, unity, and stability.

Talas Warns of 'Big Military Test' in Region

JN232204 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Within the framework of the celebrations of Independence Day and the evacuation of the French troops from the homeland and on the instructions of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, has visited our naval forces. Major General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff of the Army and Armed Forces, and the commander of the Naval Forces accompanied him during the visit.

Upon arriving at one of our naval bases, the general was received by a number of senior officers from the naval forces and the coastal region. Then they all went to the site of celebrations, which was decorated with flags, the struggler president's pictures, and placards expressing the naval forces' happiness over evacuation day and their absolute belief in the justice of the cause for which they are waging the battles of victory and liberation.

Amid a storm of applause from the fighters, who voiced their full support for the Ba'th Party and its secretary general, the general addressed the fighters. He conveyed President Hafiz al-Asad's congratulations to them on evacuation day, which was achieved with the sacrifice and blood of our fathers and grandfathers so the homeland would remain free, independent, and proud. He also conveyed the president's wishes for the success of their combat missions.

The general also reviewed the situation in the Lebanese arena after the abrogation of the agreement of submission, an abrogation that undermined the most important political result of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, foiled imperialist and Zionist plans in the region, and created a new political and military factor giving momentum to the march of national accord,and paved the way for a real plan to build modern Lebanon and restore its health.

The general also asserted that the Arabs must decide upon the solution and that the Arab option will achieve victory over all the other treacherous options that the forces of evil and tyranny are adopting and implementing. In his speech, the general also stressed that U.S. and Israeli attempts to retake the political initiative in order to aggravate the Lebanese situation again and to foil all the good efforts made to realize security and stability in the Arab region will be doomed to failure, and that the U.S. and Israeli threats will not prevent Syria from continuing its pan-Arab role in the Lebanese arena and exerting its efforts to support the honest national march toward national accord and toward eliminating the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territories.

The general also talked to the fighters, and said: The aggression that is being prepared by the forces of imperialism and Zionism against revolutionary Syria, as well as the maneuvers of pressure and blackmail that Israel is exercising against Lebanon, mean that the region is facing a difficult political experiment and a big military test. It also means that the region is at the brink of explosion. Syria, with its capabilities and with the support of the Arab nation and the friends — led by the Soviet Union — is capable of detering aggression. He added that Syria would show its ability only at the appropriate time, to convince Israel and the United States that Syria is able to deter aggression and prevent it from realizing its objectives.

The general also reiterated that Hafiz al-Asad's Syria is strong, and that it is intelligently drawing up the plan for the future and defining the framework and fields of cooperation. He added that Syria will never allow Israel to create a new reality that will upset the balance of powers in its favor. With its steadfast people and its brave Armed Forces, Syria will remain stronger that Washington's conspiracies and Israel's threats. Concluding his speech, Talas asked the naval forces to be fully alert in order to repulse any Zionist aggression against the Arab nation, so our waters will remain protected and our coast secure, and so our homeland can enjoy freedom and independence.

At the end of the celebrations, the commander of the Naval Forces and a number of formation commanders and directors of the educational institutions in the naval forces and the coastal region presented to the general, in the name of the Naval Forces, pledges written in blood. The pledges are expression of love and loyalty to struggler leader Hafiz al-Asad and an expression of their determination to continue the struggle until the objectives of the steadfast Arab masses — represented by unity, freedom, and socialism — are achieved.

Vice President Khaddam Returns From Riyadh

JN231801 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus this evening from Riaydh following a brief visit, during which he conveyed a message to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from President Hafiz al-Asad concerning the developments in the Lebanese situation.

Az-Zu'bi Receives Soviet Official 23 Apr

JN231601 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus — Mikhail Vasilyevich Kovalev, first deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers and member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Supreme Soviet, renewed his country's firm support for the Arab struggle, particularly the Syrian Arab people's struggle under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad in the battles of liberation and construction, and in all fields that will help Syria to build and defend itself against all imperialist and Zionist aggressive challenges, pressures, and threats.

This came when Mahmud az-Zu'bi, People's Assembly speaker, met with Kovalev and his delegation. They are visiting Syria during Syrian-Soviet friendship days. The meeting was also attended by Mrs Munawar Makhlutah, deputy chairwoman of the Syrian-Soviet Friendship Society in Damascus, and Vladimir Yukhin, the Soviet ambassador in Damascus.

Kovalev expressed his admiration for the construction, building, and progress, as well as for the signs of new life he has witnessed in Syria. Kovalev also expressed his great appreciation for the Syrian party and government's concern in preparing national cadres to build the Syrian national economy and in raising the youth to love the homeland, hate imperialism, which is the enemy of the people; and in entrenching the foundations of friendship and cooperation with the people of the Soviet Union, the socialist bloc, and all the forces of liberation and progress in the world.

Kovalev pointed out that Syria's achievements and victories against U.S. imperialist and Zionist plans under President Hafiz al-Asad — such as the withdrawal of the U.S. and Multinational Forces from Lebanon, and foiling the 17 May agreement — were a result of the steadfastness of these people and the firmness of their principled positions that are supported by Arab masses, international progressive forces, and their friends in the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc.

Mahmud az-Zu'bi, People's Assembly speaker, then welcomed the guest delegation, and expressed hope that this visit has achieved its objectives of entrenching the foundations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He

stressed that a victory either of the two countries achieves in any field is a victory for the other country and for the international liberation movement. Az-Zu'bi pointed to the instructions of our party and our comrade leader Hafiz al-Asad on developing relations of friendship and cooperation, and on increasing joint activities in all fields between Syria and the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc countries.

Az-Zu'bi strongly stressed our people's firm and continued determination under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad to confront the aggressive forces of imperialism, Zionism, and reaction until our objectives in building the homeland and defeating the aggressors are achieved.

Libya's Jallud Ends Week-Long Visit 23 Apr

JN231359 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1320 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 23 Apr (SANA) — Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution Command in the Libyan Jamahiriyah, left Damascus this morning after a week long visit to Syria. Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam saw him off at Damascus International Airport.

GDR's Guenther Kleiber Arrives in Damascus

JN231508 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, and his delegation arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a visit to Syria. He will lead the GDR side in the Syrian-GDR joint committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation.

Makes Arrival Statement

JN231627 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, and his delegation arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a visit to Syria. He will lead the GDR side in the Joint Syrian-GDR Committee for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation. 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and a number of ministers, received the GDR guest at Damascus International Airport today.

In a statement to SANA, Kleiber asserted that his visit to Syria falls within the framework of consultations and coordination by the joint committee for economic and technical cooperation between Syria and the GDR to promote cooperation between the two friendly countries. Kleiber also affirmed that the GDR Government and party, at the directives of President Hafiz al-Asad and Erich Honecker, attach great importance to the continuing the efforts to develop the means of cooperation between the two friendly countries in various fields.

Kleiber also praised the firm position of the Syrian Arab people and the Lebanese people for their continued confronation in order to foil all of the expansionist plans of U.S. imperialism and Zionism in the region. He also expressed the appreciation of the GDR — people and leadership — for Syria's struggle under President Hafiz al-Asad, against all forms of U.S. conspiracy in the region. He also reiterated his country's firm support for Syria in its heroic confrontation of the U.S. and Zionsit conspiracies.

Meets Qaddurah

JN232105 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, met here today with Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers. They discussed the general outline of the third session of the joint economic committee, which will begin tomorrow. They dealt with the basic factors of cooperation between the two countries in the economic, scientific, and technical fields, particularly the cement industry, electricity, and flour mills. They also discussed trade exchanges in light of the technical committees' work, and the results of their meetings, which began a few days ago.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the development of their relations of cooperation and with the steps to implement the protocols they signed. The two sides showed their desire to expand the fields of cooperation so that it can be commensurate with the profound relations between the two countries in light of the instructions of Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Erich Honecker.

Committee Urges Release of Jordanian Prisoners

JN211811 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Amman — The committees for defending democratic freedom in Jordan have called on the humanitarian and democratic bodies to support the demands of the political detainees who have been staging a hunger strike in the Az-Zarqa' military prison since 17 April. The statement, which the committees for defending freedom distributed today, refers to the inhumane and harsh treatement to which these political detainees are being exposed — such as banning visits and preventing them from using sanitary facilities, bathing, and even leaving their cells.

The statement holds the Jordanian authorities responsible for any danger to which the political detainees might be exposed at the Az-Zarqa' military prison, which is run by fascist terrorist methods. The statement calls on the members of the Jordanian House of Representatives to continue their efforts to secure the political detainees' demands and to guarantee that the official promises to release them will be implemented, especially since the final date for fulfilling these promises — 15 April — has passed without any of these promises being fulfilled.

The statement also called on the Arab Lawyers Union and all Arab and international human rights and legal groups to form emergency delegations to investigate the inhumane conditions under which the political detainees are being held, and to urge the Jordanian authorities to release them.

The statement also publishes a memorandum from the political detainees in the Az-Zarqa' military prison who are on a hunger strike, explaining the difficult conditions of their detention and the fact that they are being deprived of the minimum level of sanitary care in regard to food, clothing, and medical treatment. The signatories of the memorandum also appealed to all the good forces to support them.

Spokesmen on Arms Supply to Nicaraguan Rebels

TA240538 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] NBC Television has reported that Israel is supplying the Nicaraguan rebels with about one-fourth of their arms. One of the rebel leaders, Enrique (Bermudes), said that Israel is supplying his people with Soviet arms captured from the PLO in Lebanon. NBC also said in the report that then Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon visited Honduras twice and offered to supply weapons taken as booty in Lebanon. It also was said in the report that the rebels are interested in Soviet arms because they can activate them with ammunition captured from the Nicaraguan Army.

A spokesman for the Israeli Embassy in Washington denied Israel is supplying weapons to the Nicaraguan rebels. An unidentified Defense Ministry spokesman said, however, that Israel's policy is not to react to reports on arms sales.

IDF Conducts Routine Debriefing on Bus Hijacking

TA231940 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] The IDF did not set up a commission of inquiry to investigate the events that took place after the takeover of the bus in the Gaza Strip nor is it investigating what happened to the two terrorists who remained alive [as heard] in the course of the bus takeover. Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky reports that the IDF is conducting a routine debriefing of the affair, just as it does after every incident, but this time many bodies are involved in it, including many officers who commanded the operation. Interviewed by the U.S. television network ABC, the defense minister said last night that there is no reason to doubt the IDF's announcement.

Defense Minister Interviewed on Lebanon, Syria

TA231515 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1105 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by IDF Radio commander Colonel Ron Ben-Yishay; date and place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Ben-Yishay] Spring is usually an optimistic season, but in our part of the world it is also the season when armies move out of their winter deployment into summer deployment, which is usually more offensive. Anxiety increases and tension flashpoints arise. So in the coming hour we will talk about Syria, Lebanon, terrorism; we will concentrate on the security concept you have shaped for yourself in the course of your term in office — over a year now — and we will start with Syria. The Syrians and the Soviets are now issuing a spate of warnings to Israel not to attack Syria. Why, in your opinion, are they doing this?

[Arens] We do not know for certain. I wish we did know exactly what is happening in Damascus, or in Moscow — what their intentions are — and if I knew, then I could explain to you why they are doing so, if I was permitted to do so.

It could be for one of two reasons, one being the optimistic approach that Damascus is really afraid of an attack by us. Here I would like to immediately state that there are no such intentions on our part. I have already said, and I say here again, that no Israeli government — not the present one, nor any government that will succeed it — will initiate a war against Syria, nor will it initiate any offensive action against Syria.

[Ben-Yishay] Correspondents in the eastern sector report on increased armor and army movements by us there. Perhaps that is causing the tension among the Syrians.

[Arens] We are not undertaking any special movements. There are naturally forces in the eastern sector in Lebanon, IDF forces, and from time to time we replace forces as required, but we have no reinforcements in the area that could provide any grounds for anyone with an objective attitude to argue that we are preparing for any kind of war or offensive. As I have already told you, we are not planning this; we are not thinking of it. It runs counter to our policy to take offensive action of any kind against Syria. However, the second possibility — and it is of course one that must worry us — is that the Syrian side is planning something and is trying to create an alibi, an excuse, for action by them. I cannot tell you with any certainty that that is not the case, and therefore we must be alert.

[Ben-Yishay] Do we see any kind of deployment by them, across the line, in the area near the line or further away from it, or any changes in the Syrian deployment of an offensive nature or direction?

[Arens] No, we have not seen movements of that nature. At the same time, as you know, the Syrian Army is mainly a regular army; it is a large army, and facing us are also large regular forces in the Golan Heights, as well as in Lebanon. Following the tension prevailing in Syria right now — due to the war over the succession ostensibly — there is a high level of alert in the Syrian Army, and that of course creates the possibility that some kind of action could be taken. The basic problem of course is that when I tell you that we have no intentions whatsoever of attacking Syria, and I also say that no Israeli government will take such a step, we can place a strong belief in that statement. They can believe it even in Syria, because we are known to be a democratic country, and ultimately this government does things which the public supports. What I am saying to you constitutes public opinion in Israel, which has no interest in any offensive action against Syria. Therefore, I believe that we can accept such a statement with considerable certainty.

But the situation in Syria is practically the exact opposite. It is a totalitarian regime, where public opinion holds no sway and where there is no free press. At a time of tension in a totalitarian regime with various camps, there is definitely a possibility — such things have been known to happen in the world — that they will try to unite the camps, or to galvanize public support for the regime by diverting the people's attention toward an external enemy. Therefore, we are facing considerable uncertainty, far greater than that faced by the Syrians.

[Ben-Yishay] Do you believe it possible that at some point in time Israel might recognize legitimate Syrian interests in Lebanon?

[Arens] If by that you mean an **Anschluss** [word in German] — doing away with Lebanon's independence and accepting its annexation to Syria's borders, which could perhaps be a prelude to additional annexations by Syria — then I find it difficult to believe that even in years to come Israeli governments would be prepared to recognize such a thing.

[Ben-Yishay] Are we still insisting that a precondition for our withdrawal from Lebanon is a reciprocal move by the Syrians?

[Arens] Our condition for a withdrawal from Lebanon — and we want to leave Lebanon — is that the conditions will be created to establish security regions that will guarantee that after our departure the terrorist activity from Lebanon directed at the northern part of the country would not resume. We have hardly noticed that nearly 2 years have gone by in which no man, women, or child in the Galilee has been hurt. This was not the case during the 14 years prior to the Peace for Galilee operation, and none of us wants to go back to that earlier state of affairs. Possibly there is some connection between Syria, between the presence of the Syrian Army in Lebanon, between Syria's influence on the Lebanese Government, and the possibility that terrorist attacks will be staged from Lebanon against Israel. We would certainly be happy to receive an assurance from the Syrian Government that it will not allow — that it will not help — terrorists to act from Lebanese territory, even Lebanese territory controlled by the Syrian Army. So far we have heard no such assurances.

True, there have been periods — and we are in the middle of such a period now — in the eastern sector, where we are facing the Syrian Army, when there have been no terrorist activities, at least not a high frequency of terrorist activity. There was a time, 1 or 2 months ago, when we began to fear that there was an increasing degree of terrorist activities in the eastern sector. It was obvious to us that such an increase is inconceivable unless the Syrians permit such a thing to happen. I do not want to say this in even sharper words, but we know the extent of Syrian control in the region. It is very hard to believe — in fact it cannot be assumed — that if the Syrians themselves did not allow the terrorists to cross from their territory to that territory controlled by the IDF, they would nonetheless manage to cross and to engage in terrorist activity against us.

[Ben-Yishay] There are many people in our defense establishment who believe we must get out of this Syrian stranglehold — this constant friction with the Syrians on the confrontation line in the Al-Biqa' in Lebanon — and redeploy along a line more to the south — say, in the Lake al-Qir'awn region — and create a de facto buffer zone between ourselves and the Syrians. How do you stand on this question?

[Arens] Generally speaking, that is certainly true. We are in a situation in which there are two armies of two countries not at peace with each other, and the Syrians insist that they are in a state of war with us. If these two armies face each other, tank facing tank, there is a certain amount of instability in the situation. There is the danger that we might find ourselves in a war even when there is no such intention. Thus a buffer zone between two such armies is a good thing. We achieved this on the Golan Heights. There is a buffer zone, not a very large one, but still a buffer zone, between the IDF and the Syrian Army. It would certainly be a good thing if it were possible to create that in Lebanon as well. I would say that this depends solely on the Syrians. On our part, we are definitely ready to do so. Perhaps the United Nations might be enlisted to use its forces, who would then operate in a manner similar to that of UNDOF on the Golan Heights. But even in that case, it takes two to tango, and the Syrians must be willing to go along with this.

[Ben-Yishay] I believe the Syrians told UN Under Secretary Urquhart that they would be prepared to allow a UN force, UNIFIL or some other force, to be stationed between us provided Israel unilaterally withdraws to a line farther south. What was our answer to this Syrian proposal?

[Arens] We never received any official notification of this kind from the United States. Urquhart was here before going on to Syria. Maybe he was told of this later. At any rate, he did not pass on anything like that to us officially, and if we do receive an official notification of that kind, we will of course react to it.

[Ben-Yishay] How does the internal situation in Syria affect its involvement in Lebanon and the deployment of its forces there?

[Arens] Seemingly Rif'at al-Asad is acting on the assessment that his brother will one way or another quit the presidency, and that this could happen quite soon, and therefore he will have to make a decision soon and create a situation in which he can emerge as the successor. That is obviously his ambition. The impression is that many of the people surrounding President al-Asad object to this. Perhaps that is natural, that they regard him as a rival not entitled to be given the top place. Unlike the situation in democratic countries, when people think they should be prime minister or defense minister or foreign minister and go to the polls and let the people decide, what happens here is that you simply take tanks and armored personnel carriers and guns, and you start to threaten one another in the hope the other party will be intimidated and the desired result achieved. Evidently this is done under the assumption that the people involved are quite ready to shoot and use the weapons at their disposal.

[Ben-Yishay] Do you know whether tanks were used in the internal power struggle?

[Arens] I cannot say whether live ammunition was used, but there were maneuvers and attempts to seize positions from which one side could threaten the other. That certainly happened, and it is still happening. I say again: Since theirs is a totalitarian regime and a regime that is not deterred by the idea of setting out to war, we must be prepared and realize that, so long as this whole internal process continues there, matters could suddenly be turned against us. Let us hope it does not happen, but we cannot rule it out altogether.

[Ben-Yishay] Has the internal conflict in Syria affected the negotiations over our prisoners?

[Arens] So far we have not felt it at all. We have begun contacts to try to effect a prisoner exchange, and we are hoping to be able to conclude this matter.

[Ben-Yishay] How soon?

[Arens] Oh, again, if that were a process over which I had control, I would give you an answer which, believe me, would be: in 24 hours. However, unfortunately, there is an additional element involved here, as well as a mediator. Still, I hope it will be soon.

[Ben-Yishay] Do you mean a mediator besides the International Red Cross [IRC]?

[Arens] No, no, only the IRC.

[Ben-Yishay] Has anything new happened in this sphere over the past week or two?

[Arens] We are in contact — which I would call nearly constant — with the Syrians through the IRC, and our impression is that there is readiness in principle on their part to exchange prisoners. However, in regard to precisely what the conditions for this are, or whom the exchange will include, what will happen with the missing-in-action or the prisoners held by the various PLO factions — all this has not yet been fully clarified.

[Ben-Yishay] We know there is a Soviet commitment to participate in the defense of Syria if Israel should invade it. Recently Damascus sources claimed that the Soviet Union has extended that commitment to include Lebanon as well, at least the area held by the Syrians. Does such a thing exist? Do we know of such a Soviet commitment?

[Arens] The extent to which the Soviets have pledged in advance that they would take this or that action in this or that eventuality — this I cannot tell you. I know the Soviets are rather cautious. I would not call them adventurous, although they do things that are naturally unacceptable to the Western world, such as the invasion of Afghanistan, and perhaps they today regret that invasion. Yet, on the whole my impression is that although their policy is certainly not positive from a Western point of view, I think it is a rather cautious policy. Perhaps it has to do with the age of the members of the Politburo, where I believe the most senior leadership in any country in the world rules. I do not think that octogenarians can be expected to employ reckless steps. Therefore, I imagine that even the commitment given to the Syrians is relatively limited. However, certainly there is support and a commitment that the Syrians can feel now and feel confident they will have in the future from Moscow.

[Ben-Yishay] Do you also mean in terms of Lebanese soil and in the form of an aerial umbrella against their clients in Lebanon?

[Arens] I cannot say. It is a fact that this was not the case in the course of the Peace for Galilee operation, and although — again, I must think about such eventualities although I do not like to do that and I hope we will not have problems of belligerency involving the Syrian Army — I would say that it is not at all clear that if the Syrians initiate an offensive operation against us and we respond — as we naturally would — we would witness a Soviet involvement in such a case, because the Soviets know what I know, which is that they might be defeated.

[Ben-Yishay] What about an Israeli preventive strike?

[Arens] In such an eventuality?

[Ben-Yishay] Yes.

[Arens] I do not think that at this point in time we should think in terms of a preemptive strike. We have the capability to respond to any offensive operation we can conceive of or think about in our planning. At this stage we would like to believe that we have the deterrence capability to prevent this from happening, and that good sense will prevail in Damascus. We hope they will recognize reality — that I as well as the General Staff Command have assessed — namely that they cannot achieve anything, not even temporary achievements or even in the initial period of the warfare. Therefore, I think at this stage there is no room to think about a preemptive strike. One should not think about it now.

[Ben-Yishay] Mr Arens, occasionally the papers report that Egypt and Syria are surreptitiously growing closer to each other. A usually reliable Kuwaiti newspaper, *AL-QABAS*, reported about the visit Egyptian Defense Minister Abu Ghazala made to Syria and on an Egyptian pledge — so the paper reports — to help Syria if it should be attacked by Israel. Are those reports true?

[Arens] I cannot tell you. I, too, saw this report and paid attention to it. There are two components in this report that merit attention on our part. The first is the meeting itself. I cannot at this stage confirm that the meeting indeed took place. If it did, certain things here cause us some concern. One is the meeting between the Egyptian defense minister and the Syrian top leadership, when on the one hand Egypt has peaceful ties with us and signed a peace treaty with us while Syria claims it is in a state of war with us. The second element that should worry us — if indeed such a meeting actually took place — is why it was held in secrecy. Why did both parties wish to keep that meeting secret? We are dealing with this affair and are giving it due interest.

[Ben-Yishay] Have we submitted an official query to the Egyptian Government to find out whether this had really happened?

[Arens] No, we did not submit such a query, and I imagine that we will know whether such a meeting took place very soon even without submitting a question.

[Ben-Yishay] Mr Arens, can you envision a situation — say in the next year or two — in which we will be in a state of war with Syria and Egypt would aid it, beyond the meetings and so on?

[Arens] Perhaps you can phrase the question a bit differently so as to make it easier for me to give you a clear answer. If you ask me whether this is inconceivable, or whether this eventuality is the kind of thing that should be ruled out completely and we do not have to worry additionally about what happens in the southern front if, God forbid, we have a war along the northern front, then I would tell you: We cannot say it is inconceivable. When building the IDF and working on its strength, we definitely take into account — as one must — even the bad possibilities, if not actually the absolute worst.

[Ben-Yishay] With your permission, Mr Arens, let us move on to Lebanon. Al-Jumayyil's latest visit to Damascus appeared to

have given momentum to the course of events there. We see that a national unity government is in the process of being established. We can see that a disengagement agreement is being implemented. Perhaps you could update us on what is actually happening and also inform us on how it looks from an Israeli perspective?

[Arens] It is difficult for us to express any kind of sympathy or support for the government that will be set up in Beirut according to a Syrian diktat, although I cannot tell whether this is the case. In general, however, I would say that anything that would result in there being a government in Lebanon that could have control of events in Lebanon and ultimately also of what happens in southern Lebanon is for the good of the Lebanese people and also for our good. Yet, it is too early to tell whether the agreements [sikumim] reached in Damascus would yield this. At this stage it is difficult to be optimistic that this is what will really happen.

[Ben-Yishay] Are you saying this even as you know that perhaps this government is activated by Damascus?

[Arens] I told you that we would not feel sympathy or support for it if this is truly the state of things and the government is established as a consequence of a Damascus diktat. However, in general I can tell you that if the Lebanese administration manages to bring stability to Lebanon and succeeds in reaching a state where both the government and the Army could rule Lebanon and establish order there as well as in the south, this would be good from our point of view as well.

[Ben-Yishay] Much has recently been said about the return of the Syrian Army to Lebanon, intimating that the incumbent government may invite the Syrian army back to Beirut — as a symbolic act — to stabilize the cease-fire there. What would Israel do in such a case?

[Arens] I do not think it would be advisable for me to announce here, on IDF Radio, precisely what we will do as a consequence of an event that may not take place. I can only tell you that if indeed the Syrian Army returns to Beirut, this will be what is called in French, deja vu. In other words, this would be an old scenario that we have already observed, and one that in general does not augur well for the state of Lebanon or its inhabitants.

[Ben-Yishay] If tomorrow Amin al-Jumayyil does what the Syrians are demanding that he do — as reported by the press — in other words, demand [yidrosh] that we withdraw from southern Lebanon and perhaps even appeal to the United Nations to demand this, what will Israel do then? What will we tell him?

[Arens] Our policy is crystal clear; it is known to both Amin al-Jumayyil and Damascus. We would like to leave southern Lebanon, we would like to bring our army back home, but we will only do this when we are convinced that security arrangements have been reached that would promise us that there will be no resumption of terrorist activities from southern Lebanon against the Galilee. Amin al-Jumayyil knows this, and I presume that regardless of whether or not he appeals to the United Nations, what he ultimately does will be done taking this into consideration as well. This is our condition for leaving Lebanon.

[Ben-Yishay] Allow me to ask you one more question that has been bothering me a lot in light of the increasing strength of the Arab countries' armed forces: In the next war, Israel may for the first time in its history face a massive bombardment of the civilian hinterland by surface-to-surface missiles. Syria, Iraq, and even Egypt possess very large quantities of missiles and warheads, and they may fall on the civilian rearguard. In effect, General Talas, the Syrian defense minister, said this flat out. Do you think we are psychologically or physically prepared for such a situation, which is nearly certain should a war break out?

[Arens] I would not overestimate the chances of this; yet, I would not say for certain that this is impossible. As you know, this is not the first time people have been talking about the possibility of bombing the hinterland and not the first time we have reached such a state and prepared for this eventuality — first in preparing for the danger that the hinterland might be bombarded by the Arab air forces, and lately for surface-to-surface missiles which have been there for quite some time now. Even in the Yom Kippur war Syria and Egypt had surface-to-surface missiles.

I would say that the problem has become more exacerbated with the deliveries of more modern and accurate surface-to-surface missiles from the Soviet Union to Syria. I would say that this was one of the not-so-cautious moves by the Soviets. We are dealing with solutions to this problem. It would not be wise on my part to tell you that we have a solution at hand, or that I could ensure the inhabitants of the country that no missile could fall on the Israeli rearguard, but we are building a rather substantial network of countermeasures.

Paper Says Egypt May Fight Alongside Syria

TA241036 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Apr 84 p 9

[Commentary by Errol Guiney: "Will Cairo Rush to Damascus' Aid in Event of War With Israel?"]

[Text] Egypt officially has denied that its defense minister, General Abu Ghazalah, secretly visited Damascus to promise the Syrians that it would not stand idly by if Syria entered a confrontation with Israel.

An Egyptian spokesman emphasized that had such a visit taken place, it would have been publicized. The spokesman neither confirmed nor denied, however, the second part of the report published by the Kuwaiti newspaper about Egypt's decision not to abandon Syria in the event of a war.

Interviewed on IDF Radio, Defense Minister Moshe Arens said that it is definitely possible that Egypt would take part in a war between Israel and Syria and that Israel is taking this into account. Hence, it turns out that the Egyptian political trend is more important than the visit by an Egyptian figure to Damascus because it shows that despite the differences of opinion between the two countries — and perhaps because of them — Egypt may fight alongside Syria against Israel.

There is no evidence of such a possibility at present. First of all, despite Damascus' warnings of an imminent Israeli attack —

these warnings may be used as an excuse and alibi for a Syrian offensive — there are no indications in the field that Syria is preparing an operation. Therefore, the Syrian warnings may reflect true concern about Israel's intentions.

The Syrian warnings may also have an ulterior motive: that of strengthening national unity at a time when Al-Asad's colleagues in power are trying to outmaneuver each other to gain positions of power in anticipation of Al-Asad's retirement due to his failing health.

A direct Egyptian intervention in a war initiated by Syria — Israel is not aiming at such a war — is not as simple as it appears because the Multinational Force in the Sinai also includes U.S. battalions and an Egyptian initiative against Israel might have very serious repercussins on Washington-Cairo relations at a time when Egypt is more dependent than ever on the supply of U.S. weapons.

Despite this, there is no ignoring the fact that Egypt's political inclinations are blowing in a dangerous direction.

Egypt recently rejoined the Islamic Conference Organization and it wants to prove that it will follow its resolutions. If Egypt wants to regain its status as the largest Arab power, however, it cannot declare that it will stand idly by during any Israeli-Arab conflict because of the peace treaty it signed with Israel. It must declare that in the event of a real threat it will rush to help. How and in what way — that is altogether another question.

Israel's involvement in Lebanon — and particularly its declarations that the peace treaty with Egypt had facilitated its actions — hurt Egypt. Cairo was thrust into a very serious state of relations with the Arab world. Therefore, many of the gestures it has made in the last 2 years may have been motivated by Egypt's wish to eradicate the impression it created when it signed the peace treaty with us.

The Egyptians apparently are convinced that the United States "is not holding all the cards," as As-Sadat stated at the time, and that is why they still want the survival of the treaty with Israel. [sentence as published] As the Israeli election approaches, however, the Egyptians are not making any effort whatsoever to establish a dialogue or to approach the moderate camp in Israel, be it the Alignment, 'Ezer Weizman, or Shinuy.

On the contrary, some of their actions — as well as the anti-Semitic undertones in their press — only play into the hands of those who thought that the peace treaty with Egypt was a mistake, and one should not forget that Shamir, Arens, and Kohen-Orgad were opposed to Camp David.

In short, Israel definitely made several psychological mistakes in its moves toward Egypt, especially when it assumed that a separate peace treaty with this country would survive regardless of what happens between Israel and other Arab countries. Egypt is no less mistaken, however, now in stating a policy regarding Israel that undermines the faith and good will of those who want to achieve a peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem. Also, there is no ignoring the fact that Israel eventually might develop real hostility toward Egypt, and that would absolutely be against the real wishes of both sides.

Senior Level Contacts With Egypt To Be Initiated

TA240908 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Apr 84 pp 1, 7

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi, Yehoshu'a Halamish, and Smadar Peri]

[Excerpt] Israel soon will try to improve its relations with Egypt. In this context, Israel will initiate the resumption of bilateral contacts at the senior level.

The realization of the need to improve relations with Egypt came in light of the freeze, and even the deterioration, in bilateral relations on the eve of the second anniversary of the completion of the Sinai evacuation. The deterioration in bilateral relations was reflected in the statements made by Egyptian Minister of State Butrus Ghali and Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

Egypt Releases Nine Israeli Boatsmen 23 April

TA231824 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1815 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Elat, 23 Apr (ITIM) — Nine Israeli boatsmen who sailed south of Tabah and were arrested by Egyptian police boats on three different occasions were released after each one of them paid a fine of 50 Egyptian pounds (equivalent to approximately $62).

Six of them, including the waterskiing instructor from the Sonesta Hotel, Gil Qafqafi, a 28-year old resident of Elat, were released last night. Three others, including two young girls, were released today.

South Lebanese Commander on IDF Pullback

TA231825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Major General Antoine Lahad, commander of the south Lebanese army, says Israel will have no excuse to remain in south Lebanon if his militia can provide security for Israel's northern border. In an interview with the ASSOCIATED PRESS, Lahad said his 2,000-men militia is prepared to fill the vacuum when Israel withdraws its army from the south. The south Lebanese commander says he opposes Syria's presence in Lebanon in the same way that he is against the Israelis remaining on Lebanese territory.

IDF Satisfied With Report on Thinning-Out Agreement

TA232045 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2020 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 23 Apr (ITIM) — The UN forces in Lebanon and on the Golan Heights this weekend completed a routine review of the thinning out of forces there, as they have

always done. This time the examination carried special importance in light of reports on tension between the two armed forces. According to the people who conducted the survey, there is no violation of the thinning-out agreement and the two armies are as scrupulous in observing it as before.

The IDF has expressed satisfaction with the results of the review, although it was pointed out that it did not include the eastern front in Lebanon, where the main problem involving the IDF and the Syrians exists.

Bomb Explodes Near Qalqilyah; 2 Injured
TA231813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] A bomb exploded near Qalqilyah, and two Israeli travelers were slightly injured. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the bomb was made of an old shell which was activated near the monument in Khirbat (Sufin) near Qalqilyah.

2 Explosive Devices Discovered in Khan Yunus
TA240749 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0740 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] An explosive device was discovered last night in a mosque in Khan Yunus [in the Gaza Strip]. A police sapper safely dismantled it. In searches conducted in the area, a smaller explosive device also was discovered. This device exploded and the police sapper was grazed.

Arabs Form Independent List for Knesset Elections
TA240724 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] Nazareth — One hundred and fifty Arab dignitaries belonging to different parties and organizations from 25 villages in Galilee and the Triangle this week decided to run for the Knesset on an independent list.

They elected a committee to draft their political platform. The organizers, some of them supporters of radical groups like the Sons of the Village Movement, have boycotted the Knesset elections in the past.

Shefar'am Mayor Ibrahim Husayn advised the participants to adopt a moderate stance to enable the new list to gain the sympathy of Jewish voters.

ALGERIA

Cheysson Talks With Ibrahimi, Returns Home

LD240137 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Following a brief visit to Algeria, Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations, said that he reviewed with his Algerian counterpart, Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, the Western Sahara, Chad, and southern Africa, and Middle East issues. With regard to the Western Sahara, French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson, who returned to Paris tonight, has stressed that France supports the right of the Saharan people to self-determination and supports the OAU resolutions pertaining to that area.

SFRY's Spiljak Comments on Talks in Algiers

PM231038 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 10 Apr 84 p 1

[APS report: "Message of Thanks to Head of State From President Mika Spiljak"]

[Text] Algiers — "We are leaving very satisfied with the rich and fruitful talks we have had on the promotion of bilateral relations and in the sphere of international relations and the Nonaligned Movement, on which our positions are very close or identical," Mika Spiljak, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, said in the message of thanks he sent President Chadli Bendjedid before his departure from Algiers.

"We are convinced that our visit will contribute to new agreements in all spheres of bilateral cooperation," the Yugoslav president added.

LIBYA

UK Warned Against Entering Embassy in London

NC241053 Paris AFP in English 1033 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, April 24 (AFP) — Libyan Foreign Minister at-Turayki today warned that if British authorities entered Tripoli's embassy in London, Libyan soldiers would go into Britain's embassy here.

In the wake of last Sunday's severing of diplomatic relations by Britain, Mr. at-Turayki told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that Libya would exercise "reciprocity", both over the return of diplomatic staff and respect for embassy grounds. "The diplomats will return home at the same time, and if British soldiers enter the People's Bureau in London after midnight Sunday (the deadline given by Britain for the departure of the Libyans) we will do the same here," he said.

Britain broke diplomatic links five days after a policewoman was killed outside the embassy, allegedly by one of several shots fired from inside at demonstrators.

Mr. at-Turayki said talks were being held both here and in London to organize the evacuation of diplomatic personnel from both sides. He said the Libyan People's Congress was currently examining Tripoli's official response to Britain's unilateral decision to sever ties.

Mr. at-Turayki said Libya had "no problem" with accepting Italy, which Britain has chosen to look after its interests here. He said Tripoli had proposed a third country which he did not name, to [words indistinct]

The British ambassador here, Oliver Miles, has already said he hoped to return to London with his family on Thursday, but a special plane sent by London to take out embassy staff and their families (16 people in all) has not been ruled out.

Mr. at-Turayki said that the Libyan authorities had been "surprised" by Britain's decision to (?sever) relations, as London had made contact with countries such as Turkey, Morocco, and Italy as possible mediators. "At the same time as R. Miles was notifying me of London's [words indistinct] to tell me that the British prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, had contacted him about mediation", he asserted.

Mr. at-Turayki said that relations between Libya and Britain should have been preserved. "We made a proposal", he noted, referring to Libya's suggestion to send its own inquiry team to London to determine the responsibility for the shooting.

The inquiry commission would have been chaired by a judge of the Libyan Supreme Court and include another member of the court, he said. He deplored the fact that the British Government had disregarded the proposal, adding, "everybody was surprised".

Tripoli had warned London of the dangers of last Tuesday's demonstration by opponents of the regime of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the risk of authorising it, Mr. at-Turayki said. "We deplore the death of the British policewoman", he added.

Mr. at-Turayki accused the British authorities of surrounding the "People's Bureau" in St. James's Square and arresting Libyan diplomats and other citizens. No action had been taken against British diplomats in Tripoli, he stressed.

Heathrow Officials Give Arrivals 'Rigorous Treatment'

LD240832 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0814 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Apr (JANA) — Travelers arriving in London yesterday from the Jamahiriyah were subjected to rigorous treatment by the Heathrow Airport authorities on arrival aboard a Libyan Arab Airways airliner.

The authorities prevented the workers at the airport from unloading the baggage from the plane. This forced the staff of the Libyan Arab Airlines office at the airport to do the unloading themselves. The passengers of the plane, which arrived at the airport yesterday, were also forced to pick up their own baggage and personal belongings after they were subjected to rigorous

search and strict police measures. The British police also used police dogs to provoke the passengers of the plane.

The JANA correspondent in London has reported that the provocative British police measures caused the plane to leave several hours late.

People's Congresses Begin Discussing Ties With UK

LD231747 [Editorial Report] Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic at 1522 GMT on 23 April begins to relay the proceedings of a meeting of one of the basic people's congresses. The location of the meeting is not given, nor are the speakers identified. The first speaker talks about the incident involving the Libyan People's Bureau in London, describing the steps taken by the Libyan and British authorities in this connection and calling British measures incorrect and illogical. Another speaker says that the Libyan people "will never accept this humiliation" and asks those present to discuss the issue and take the appropriate measures.

The following speaker says that the British must afford protection to the Libyans living in Britain and expresses the view that "we shall not sever our relations with the people...relations with Britain should continue even if it has severed relations with us. Most of the European countries are trying to do what the British Government has done. France is trying to do the same. But we as people should not sever our relations with any state, because it is necessary that we demonstrate our presence inside every European state and in every spot of the world."

Another speaker says that the decision to break off relations was not a British decision: "It was a decision by the White House. Evidence of this is the fact that the U.S. President stated that Britain was going to break relations with Libya even before Britain made the announcement. This means that the decision came from America." He adds: "We regard the British community in Libya as free and under our protection. We shall not specify a deadline for the British Embassy staff to leave the Jamahiriyah; we shall leave that to them. We shall treat them as human beings. We also warn Britain and say to her: We have interests in Britain, we have students studying in Britain, we have communities in Britain. If they are harmed in any way, then Britain should expect retaliation from us — not in Libya but in every spot where there is a British Embassy or a British community and British interests." He proposes that this be the decision taken.

The following speaker criticizes the West and states that his decision is that Libya "not only sever relations but also all cooperation, particularly economic cooperation, with all Western states." Another speaker stresses that relations should be people to people and that the British people's attitude was the result of government pressure. The next speaker comments that the British severed relations because of Libyan opposition to the missiles deployed in their territory, and adds: "Regarding the severance of relations, we should do the same and sever our relations with Britain, because Britain benefits from us, we do not benefit from Britain. We spend millions on the students we send to Britain. With regard to medical treatment, as long as the West fights us, we should transfer our patients to the Eastern bloc. Look at the Arab attitude. Not even a single Arab state spoke out in our support; they spoke against us." He goes on: "Therefore, it is my personal view that since Britain severed relations with us, then we should sever relations with it; one day Britain will come back and say it was mistaken and they in Britain will admit their mistake." The last speaker expresses his view that relations should not be severed, because relations are between peoples. He says that the Libyan people should support China in its claim over Hong Kong and Argentina in its claim regarding the Falklands, and should "support the Irish Republican Army, which represents the conscience of the Irish people; we should support the Irish people so that they can be freed from the sovereignty of the aged kingdom."

Students Hold Anti-UK Demonstrations in Banghazi

LD231832 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1808 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Apr (JANA) — Student masses at secondary schools and institutes in the city of Banghazi staged a demonstration this morning angrily denouncing the armed attack on the Libyan Arab People's Bureau by the British police. The attack is considered a violation of international law. The participants in the demonstration carried placards condemning the hostile British policy and asserting the adherence of the Libyan Arab people to their revolutionary choices and the will to defend them to the end.

After the demonstration the student masses issued a statement blaming the British Government for attacking the People's Bureau in London and for the repressive measures against the revolutionary forces in Britain. The statement asserted that the Libyan Arab people will reply to all British provocations and that they are not [word indistinct] in facing any racist imperialist threat or provocations.

CSSR 'Revolutionary Force' Denounces UK Siege

LD241316 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The revolutionary force in Czechoslovakia has cabled the brother leader of the revolution affirming the Libyan Arab people's ability to tackle the enemies on all fronts in defense of their revolutionary choice until death. The revolutionary force denounced the police seige imposed by the British Government on the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in London, affirming that the Libyan Arab people are forging their way forward with revolution, challenge and hard work for the realization of the national tasks. They bring good news to peoples thirsty for freedom and final emancipation from all political, economic, and social problems, and for the sake of that they will crush all attempts to obstruct their revolutionary course.

Tunisian Party Supports Country Against UK Aggression

LD222123 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1940 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Apr (JANA) — The Tunisian National Arab Rally denounced the British police's aggression against the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in London.

In a telegram to the brother leader of the revolution, the Rally affirmed that this aggression against the People's Bureau is a hostile act directed not only at the Jamahiriyah but against all the Arab nations and that this aggression is a glaring violation of international laws, norms, and ethics and a serious precedent that threatens international relations.

The National Arab Rally in Tunisia voiced its support, appreciation, and pride for the revolutionary stands of the Jamahiriyah's past and present revolutionary stands for the triumph of the Arab nation and just human causes. It affirmed its firm stand alongside the Libyan Arab people for the sake of liberating our Arab homeland and for its deliverance and unification.

Upper Volta's Sankara Affirms Support for Country
LD230349 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] The president of the National Council of the Revolution in Upper Volta, Thomas Sankara, has telephoned the brother commander about the situation of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in London which was subjected to an armed aggression by British police forces. He affirmed Upper Volta's support for the Jamahiriyah because of its just and right stands.

Egyptian Papers' Defense of UK, U.S. Stance Blasted
LD231733 Tripoli JANA in English 1422 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 23, April 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Egyptian Government newspaper *AL-AHRAM* and *AL-AKHBAR* published, yesterday, leading articles defending openly the obvious enmity stand of the American and British Governments against the Libyan Arab people in accordance to imperialist and low motives aimed at aggression to the people's authority in the Jamahiriyah.

The two papers supported blindly and by paid and treacherous writers the British police repulsive measures which led to armed attack by the British police on the People's Bureau in London.

It defended the British Government action of preparing under cover the attack and marching of few agents to the People's Bureau in London.

AL-AHRAM and *AL-AKHBAR* have shown the nature of the provocative aggression by writing a series of unfounded accusations and untrue allegations towards Libya. It has been shown clearly the ugly motives behind these shameful writing which defended American and British terror and gave excuses, in accordance with the stand of treachery and cheap improvisement, to British terrorist and disgraceful actions.

What the two papers published yesterday was in complete and open contradiction with what other paper, *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, published, last Friday, which rejected the British aggressive motives in challenging the American Government for its use of the incident of armed attack carried out by the British Government as an exclusive to carry out military action against Libya which led to the concern of the American circles since what *AL-JUMHURIYAH* said was in favour of Libya and exposed American aggressive movement directed towards Libyan people and Arab homeland. [sentence as received]

According to confirmed information, the American assistant under secretary of State Department, Richard Murphy, during his visit to Cairo and after what he read about *AL-JUMHURIYAH* article, had asked paid agents in *AL-AHRAM* and *AL-AKHBAR*, CIA-backed newspaper, to launch its hatred and malice against the Jamahiriyah and publish the front pages, dirty wash that could not be mistaken but for American ugly face. [paragraph as received]

This twisted behaviour is not new *AL-AHRAM* and *AL-AKHBAR* since they have always been concerned with the Libyan Arab correct stands and campaigning and misleading to the imperialist and Zionist circles' plots. The papers supported and is still supporting all imperialist and Zionist threats against the Arabs land, in particular, the Libyan Arab people. [paragraph as received]

The Libyan Arab correct stand which was represented on self defence nature of members of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in face of British armed attack is more imminent [word as received] than to be reached by paid writers and immoral treachery because it is based on the Libyans' natural right under the umbrella of the international law which was openly breached by the British Government. This breach was contended by *AL-AHRAM* and *AL-AKHBAR* and in appeasement of Washington and London policy of terror against the Libyan Arab people.

Jordanian Treatment of Political Prisoners Rapped
LD231103 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Apr (JANA) — The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress strongly condemned the inhuman treatment to which political detainees are subjected by the Jordanian royalist regime.

In a cable of protest sent to the Jordanian prime minister, parliament speaker and interior minister, the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress confirmed that the political detainees in Jordan, especially in [word indistinct] military prison, are exposed to the worst kind of treatment [words indistinct] which endangers their lives.

The cable added that the political detainees in the prisons of the Jordanian regime have started an open hunger strike until their just demands are met. The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress demands the immediate release of all the political detainees in the prisons of the Jordanian regime so that they can resume their struggle against the oppressive Zionist aggression against the land of Palestine.

MOROCCO

U.S. Trade Secretary Comments on Visit, Relations

LD231315 Rabat MAP in English 1217 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Rabat, Apr 23 (MAP) — U.S. Secretary of Trade Malcolm Baldrige left Morocco Saturday afternoon at the end of a five-day visit during which he had been received by King Hassan II.

In a statement he made upon departure, Mr Baldrige expressed satisfaction at the outcome of his talks with Moroccan officials and stressed the necessity to increase cooperation between Morocco and the United States at the level of the ties of friendship existing between the two countries.

During his sojourn here, the American official conferred with Moroccan Minster of Trade, Industry, and Tourism Azeddine Guessous and got in touch with Moroccan businessman.

Relatedly, in an interview published Saturday by the progovernmental daily *MAROC-SOIR*, Mr Baldrige said political relations between Morocco and the United States are of a much higher level than economic relations because "Moroccan businessmen traditionally view exchanges in the context of North-South...now, we provide them with the possibility of working in an East-West context".

He added that a significant factor will be to set up joint ventures between the two countries' private sectors. U.S companies, he said, would provide capitals, technology as well as exporting facilities.

As to the initiatives likely to attract the interest of U.S. businessmen in Moroccan development projects, Mr Baldrige said it mainly depends on the Moroccan private sector, which must define concise projects.

He added that economic cooperation between the two counrtres would be further developed in the areas of agriculture, fisheries, and electronics, "three important sectors on which we shall organize colloquies in the future", he said.

SUDAN

Foreign Minister Mubarak Scores Libyan 'Terrorism'

JN232013 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Apr (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak described here today the acts of terrorism recently carried out by the Libyan regime in London, represented by the shooting from inside the so-called Libyan People's Bureau, as being completely in line with the policy of terrorism pursued by Libya.

Mubarak pointed out that it was such acts of terrorism by the Libyan regime that made Sudan lodge its recent complaint against Libya with the Security Council. He said that the recent acts of terrorism in London categorically prove to the world that the Sudanese complaint against Libya is true. Mubarak emphasized that Sudan is against terrorism anywhere in the world.

Affirms Ties to Egypt

NC201550 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, Sudanese foreign affairs minister, has affirmed in an interview published in the London-based newspaper *AT-TADAMUN* that the joint defense agreement between Sudan and Egypt is firm and strong, and that the two countries have agreed that the security of either state directly affects the security of the other.

About President Husni Mubarak's visit to Sudan following the air raid on Omdurman and whether this means the beginning of an Egyptian military move alongside Sudan, the Sudanese foreign minister said the visit did not mean this.

Answering another question, Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak noted that the arrival of the U.S. AWACS had been at Sudan's own request, and had it not been for the air raid and the feeling that there might be further attacks on Sudan, it would not have requested the AWACS. He added that these planes are not for offensive purposes but can provide the information which we seek about the illegal violations of Sudanese airspace.

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Statement Says 70 Moroccan Troops Killed

PA241255 Paris AFP in English 1245 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Algiers, Apr 24 (AFP) — Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for the independence of the Western Sahara killed 70 Moroccan troops in an attack in the northwest of the territory on Monday, a Polisario statement released here today said.

The Polisario Front, which has proclaimed the Sahrawi Arabic Democratic Republic in the former Spanish colony which is also contested by Rabat, added that its forces wounded many Moroccan soldiers and destroyed a large quantity of Moroccan war material, including armored trucks and vehicles.

The attack was the second Polisario operation in 48 hours against Moroccan troops stationed south of Zaak, an important Moroccan military base near the border between Algeria, Morocco and the Western Sahara.

Zaak is less than 100 kms (65 miles) from Tindouf, Algeria, where Polisario refugees are camped.

The Polisario Front earlier said that more than 30,000 Moroccan troops had been sent to the south of Zaak to build a second barrier to protect the northern portion of the Western Sahara.

The Moroccan buildup marked a new and seriously threatening stage in Rabat's "expansionist expedition," which had U.S. and other Western military backing, Polisario said.

U.S. Said Behind Moroccan 'Expansionist Ambitions'
LD221041 Algiers APS in Arabic 0925 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] SDAR — Liberated Territories, 22 Apr (APS) — An SDAR Ministry of Information and Culture statement has announced that the concentration of more than 30,000 Moroccans a week ago in the region of Zaak, northeast of the Moroccan-SDAR border, constitutes a new stage in the expansionist ambitions of the Moroccan king. This is a grave danger which threatens the whole area.

The Saharan statement issued on Saturday after the meeting of the Saharan Cabinet presided by Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz, SDAR president and secretary general of the Polisario, pointed out that members of the Saharan Government have studied the current situation in Africa, especially in the northwest portion of the continent. [words indistinct]

The statement said: "Because of his inability to respond to the demands of the peoples of the international community to apply a political solution recognized by all international organizations, and because of his inability to fulfill the legitimate demands of the Moroccan people to end an unfair war, the king of Morocco has opted for military adventure and expansionism.

The Saharan Cabinet explained that without the military support of some Western powers, especially the United States, King Hassan II would not have opted for this policy. The statement added that the Moroccan-American military maneuvers which are taking place simultaneously with Moroccan military escalation in the region clearly exemplify this dangerous situation.

The statement pointed out that during its study of the current situation in Africa, the SDAR Government stressed its resolve to participate in the 20th OAU summit in order to practice its right as a member of the organization. The SDAR has always shouldered its responsibilities.

On the other hand, the Saharan Cabinet praised the support of friendly countries for the Saharan issue and renewed the insistence of the Saharan people to continue their legitimate battle to impose respect for their rights, freedom, independence and sovereignty.

The Saharan Cabinet appealed to all countries of the world to pay attention to the deteriorating situation in western Africa, a deterioration which threatens the whole region and for which the king of Morocco and the United States are responsible.

KENYA

Moi Talks With Numayri in Sudan 'Very Successful'

EA231848 Nairobi KNA in English 1401 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Nairobi, Apr 23 — President Daniel arap Moi today paid a one-day visit to Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, at the invitation of President Ja'far Numayri. During the visit, the two heads of state reviewed bilateral issues and discussed in detail regional and international matters.

President Moi described the visit as very successful, adding that the discussions were held in a cordial and brotherly atmosphere. He said that this exchange of views cemented further the relations between the two sister states. He said this exchange of views was in accordance with the provisions of the Organisation of African Unity Charter.

The discussions, which were held at President Numayri's official residence, were also attended by a minister of state in the office of the president, Mr Justice Ole Tipis, the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, and the chief secretary, Mr Jeremiah Kiereini.

SOMALIA

Siad Barre Rejection of IMF Proposals Viewed

EA232051 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Dr 'Ali Mahmud Jana commentary]

[Text] Our commentary tonight is on the issue of the Siad Barre regime's rejection of the economic assistance proposed by the IMF. The IMF, which helps poor nations, especially in the Third World, proposed a program to the Siad Barre regime to improve Somalia's shattered economy. The economy has been reduced to this level since Siad Barre came to power. The perilous state of the economy has prevented the Siad Barre regime from allowing imports.

The proposals by the IMF to improve Siad Barre's economy include:

1. Abolition of the bogus trade agencies which serve no purpose in the country;

2. Reduction by 60 percent in the enormous military expenditures;

3. Reestablishment of import-export trade;

4. Devaluation of the Somali shilling to 36 Somali shillings to the U.S. dollar.

According to international press reports, when Siad Barre's Central Committee met to discuss this issue, 30 members, including his economic affairs minister, accepted this, but Siad Barre and one other person refrained from making a decision, which was interpreted as a rejection by him. It is because of this that Somalia [words indistinct] the economy as proposed by the IMF.

The IMF proposals to the Siad Barre regime only threw light on Siad Barre's dictatorship and the ineffectiveness and lightweight nature of his so-called cabinet. This was clearly seen when the IMF succumbed to Siad's voice alone, while the 30 voices of his cabinet were disregarded.

Siad saw the IMF proposals as [word indistinct] which would in turn lessen his control and jurisdiction. For example, if the proposal on reinstating trade was implemented and if the IMF took control of the administration of (?letters of credit), Siad's control over appointees in line with his interests of keeping the people divided, fostering tribal confrontation — both of which serve Siad Barre's basic interests — would become virtually useless should he accept the IMF proposals.

On the other hand, he is unconcerned with the economic doldrums the country is in, knowing full well that he is the only person with sufficient power to rectify the situation. Therefore, the only way out for the Somali people is by becoming a vanguard force for their freedom without asking for assistance from anyone.

TANZANIA

Mwinyi Sworn in as Zanzibar President

LD241156 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1000 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi was today sworn in as the new president of Zanzibar and the chairman of the isle's Revolutionary Council.

A brief ceremony was attended by the president of the United Republic of Tanzania, Mwalimu Nyerere, the party secretary general, Ndugu Rashidi Kawawa, the Zanzibar chief minister, Ndugu Seif Shariff Hamad, and several ministers as well as invited foreign diplomats.

Ndugu Mwinyi was sworn in by the Zanzibar chief justice, Ndugu Agostino Ramadhani, and witnessed by two party elders from Zanzibar and Pemba at the grounds of the House of Representatives. There were also prayers conducted by Muslim and Christian leaders.

Calls for Economic Upsurge

EA240856 Zanzibar Domestic Service in Swahili 1600 GMT 21 Apr

[Text] The Zanzibar president-elect, Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi, has called on the people of the islands to brace themselves to rehabilitate the country's economy, which is now in a poor condition. He said the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, in its third phase, will strive to obtain all the tools needed by workers and agricultural input for farmers to enable them to produce more and increase the national product. Ndugu Mwinyi made the appeal today in his first speech to thank the people for

electing him president of Zanzibar. The speech was delivered on radio and television.

He said the duty of workers in the services sector is to put their places of work in good order, and of workers in the industrial sector to produce more so as to achieve the target of self-sufficiency in home-produced goods. Turning to agriculture, Ndugu Mwinyi said that it is government's policy to direct the bulk of its resources toward strengthening the agricultural sector. It is therefore the duty of the farmers to work harder to produce more to achieve the target of becoming self-sufficient in food for themselves and providing food for the urban dwellers.

The president-elect also stressed the government's intention to strengthen the country's economy by promoting diversification instead of depending on the single crop of cloves. He said in implemention of this intention, every Zanzibar patriot both at home and abroad is duty-bound to participate morally and materially in the rehabilitation of the national economy. The government therefore invites all Zanzibaris to make their contributions toward the country's progress.

Touching on the elections just ended, Ndugu Mwinyi congratulated and thanked all the people who registered and votes. He said it was heartening to see such a large number of people registering and voting at a time when the country has just passed through the difficult stage of a political crisis. The act of voting in large numbers, Ndugu Mwinyi said, has rehabilitated the country's image and completely dashed the hopes of the reactionaries who plotted to oppose our union.

GHANA

Official Asks Muslims To Resolve Differences

AB240750 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The deputy secretary for Brong Ahafo, Mr Boakye Boateng, has appealed to all factions within the Ghana Muslim Representatives Council to resolve their differences and unite. He spoke against the divisive tendencies and activities of some of the council members and component bodies. Addressing the closing session of a 2-day national congress of the council at Sunyani, Mr Boakye Boateng pointed out that these tendencies go against one of the cardinal principles of Islam, which is unity. They also do not augur well for nation building. The deputy secretary noted that the title "alhaji" seems to be fast becoming synonymous with the practice of kalabule [fraudulent commercial activities] in the society. He therefore asked the council to educate its members on the harm their activities are doing to the image of the organization and the nation.

GUINEA

Foreign Minister Attends ICO Fes Meeting

AB232235 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Our minister of foreign affairs has just returned from Fes, Morocco, where he represented our country at the ad hoc committee meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization. Captain Facine Toure, member of the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] and minister of foreign affairs, attended the closing of the extraordinary session of the ad hoc committee on Thursday, 19 April 1984, at Fes. One may note that the meeting took place under the chairmanship of His Majesty King of Hassan II of Morocco and was attended by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization. In a warmly applauded statement of support and solidarity, the Guinean minister of foreign affairs reasserted the total readiness and determination of the CMRN, the government, and the people of Guinea to support all just causes. "The Palestinian cause is a priority cause for all Muslims in the world," said the Guinean minister of foreign affairs, whose mission to Morocco was greatly highlighted.

Two Financial Agreements With FRG Signed

AB232145 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Two financial agreements were signed today at 1300 at a ceremony held at the Ministry of International Cooperation between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Guinea. The two grant agreements were signed for Guinea by Captain Fode Momo Camara, minister of international cooperation, and for the FRG by His Excellency Werner Zimmermann, FRG ambassador to Guinea. The first grant, a total of DM19 million, will go toward the construction of a telex station in Conakry. The second, a total of DM1 million, which will be used in the electrification project for the town of Conakry, brings the FRG's overall participation in this area to DM35.6 million.

After the signing and exchange of documents, the minister of international cooperation said that this action by the FRG Government symbolizes the strengthening of cooperation between Guinea and the FRG. On behalf of the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] and the Guinean Government, he thanked the FRG Government for its kindness toward our people and expressed Guinea's desire for a strengthening of the bonds of friendship andcooperation between the German and Guinean peoples. In his speech,the FRG ambassador, His Excellency Werner Zimmermann, underlined the importance his government attaches to cooperation with the Republic of Guinea. He expressed the hope for the continuation and the strengthening of this cooperation, noting that the German people consider the Guinean people as friends. The FRG ambassador wished the CMRN full success in its exalted mission of redress.

NIGERIA

Reportage on Border Closing, Currency Change

Currency Exchange Detailed

AB231840 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Apr 84

["Special broadcast" by Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Nigerian Army; place not given — live or recorded]

[Text] Fellow Nigerians, you are aware that one of the main objectives of this administration is to revive the battered economy of this great nation. The head of the Federal Military Government and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, and the minister of finance informed you recently of the stark reality of our economic situation and the financial predicament in which we have found ourselves as a result of the mismanagement of the economy by the defunct civilian administration.

After the painstaking analysis of the factors which have contributed to the present state of affairs, this administration has come to the conclusion that drastic measures must be applied. It has been established beyond any doubt that one of the major causes of our economic malaise is the deliberate sabotage of the economy through large-scale illegal trafficking of the naira notes across our borders, within and beyond our beloved continent. This administration has therefore decided, in the interest of our beloved nation, to effect a change in our currency immediately. As from Wednesday, 25 April 1984, the existing Nigerian currency note of the 20 naira, 10 naira, 5 naira, and 1 naira denominations will be withdrawn from circulation by the Central Bank of Nigeria and new notes in these denominations will be issued in exchange.

All Nigerian borders are closed with immediate effect except in respect of persons traveling by air or sea. Armed and security forces have been ordered to deal ruthlessly with any person

attempting to violate our borders while the closure lasts and the currency exchange exercise is being undertaken.

Any persons caught trying in anyway whatsoever to sabotage this currency exchange exercise will be arraigned before the antisabotage tribunal. The governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria will issue detailed instructions to the commercial banks and to the public to facilitate the currency exchange exercise.

However, in essence the process will be as follows: The exchange will commence at commercial banks and at Central Bank branches at 0800 on Wednesday 25 April 1984 and will be completed at 1800 on Sunday, 6 May 1984. Individuals can exchange up to a maximum of 5,000 naira over the counter. Any amount in excess of 5,000 naira will have to be deposited with a bank which will issue the depositer with the proper acknowledgement to that effect. Every depositer with an amount exceeding 5,000 naira who does not have a bank account is required to produce to the bank at the time of lodgement an affidavit sworn to it in the high court indicating the source of the lodgement and that the amount involved belongs to him or her together with three passport photographs, one of which will be returned to him or her duly stamped by the bank. Account holders will make direct payment into their accounts at the banks in the normal way, except that if the direct payment exceeds 5,000 naira, they must produce an affidavit and three passport photographs.

The old currency notes of 20 naira, 10 naira, 5 naira, and 1 naira will continue to be legal tender up to the completion of the currency exchange exercise on Sunday, 6 May 1984. In rural areas, where no banking facilities exist, the sole administrators of local governments will collect money for exchange from individuals and arrange to exchange it at the nearest branch of the Central Bank of Nigeria. The administrators will issue receipts to the individuals from whom he has received money. The receipts will be recovered from the individual after the new money is given to him or her in exchange. The sole administrator will, for the purpose of security, carry out this exercise under the supervision of the members of the Armed Forces, the police, and other security agents.

Fellow countrymen and women, it is clearly in the interest of all Nigerians that this currency exchange exercise should be carried out smoothly. This administration calls on all Nigerians to be vigilant at all times and to report any suspicious activities to the nearest police station or security agencies. All persons, without exception, arriving at our air and sea ports during this period will be subjected to a thorough search. Your cooperation and understanding is required to make this exercise painless and successful.

Bank Governor Orders Exchange

NC231916 Paris AFP in English 1913 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Lagos, April 23 (AFP) — The governor of the Nigerian Central Bank, Abdulkadir Ahmed, today ordered Nigerians to exchange their money for new bills at the bank, in a bid to counter the black market and practices that had weakened the national currency in recent years. Under the Central Bank's decision, Nigerians have been given 12 days to hand in all their bank notes and would receive up to a total of 5,000 naira (6,500 dollars) in exchange.

Bank Governor on Exchange

AB240950 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 24 Apr 84

["Special national broadcast" by Alhaji Abdulkadir Ahmed, governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] Fellow Nigerians, a short while ago you listened to the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, in a nationwide broadcast announcing the Federal Military Government's decision to change the colors of the Nigerian currency notes with effect from Wednesday, 25 April 1984.

The new colors are: 1 naira will bear the colors of the current 20 naira note; 5 naira will bear the colors of the current 10 naira note; 10 naira will bear the colors of the current 1 naira note; 20 naira will bear the colors of the current 5 naira note. The current 50 kobo note will continue to retain its present colors and size as well as its legal tender status.

This change is being undertaken as an emergency operation with minimum delay and cost. I am therefore requesting all commercial banks throughout the country and the general public for their maximum cooperation and support in order to accomplish the objective of the Federal Military Government in embarking on this exercise. Under the exercise, all existing currency notes of 1 naira, 5 naira, 10 naira, and 20 naira denominations issued by the Central Bank of Nigeria on 2 July 1979 shall continue to be legal tender in Nigeria up to and including 6 May 1984. With effect from Monday, 7 May 1984, these notes will cease to be legal tender in Nigeria. The exchange of the existing notes will commence on Wednesday, 25 April 1984, and it will terminate on Sunday, 6 May 1984. Consequently, members of the public have a total of 12 days within which to exchange the money in their possession.

In order to complete the exchange exercise within the stipulated period of 12 days ending on 6 May 1984, all commercial banks are hereby instructed to remain open for business on all days throughout the period including Saturdays and Sundays, 28 and 29 April and 5 and 6 May 1984 respectively. Furthermore, for the duration of the exchange period (?going) from 25 April to 6 May 1984, all commercial banks are hereby instructed to remain open for business until 1800 each day and to give every reasonable and legitimate assistance to members of the public to exchange their money.

Commercial banks will be notified in due course in respect of arrangements for the lodgement of their deposits with the Central Bank of Nigeria. In view of the security nature of the exchange exercise and the high priority (?objective), members of the Armed Forces and the police will provide full security coverage for the currency movement from the Central Bank offices to the premises of commercial banks. Adequate security must also be provided in the premises of the commercial banks.

Correction to West Africa Section 20 April

In the 20 April edition of the Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT*, the first U section in both the Table of Contents and the volume itself should be labeled T, West Africa.

ANGOLA

Reportage on UNITA Bomb Attack in Huambo

Luanda Report
MB232009 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] The ANGOLAN PRESS AGENCY, ANGOP, today published a dispatch on the recent bomb attack in Huambo by UNITA criminals, the text of which reads:

In their antinational path, the puppet groups in the pay of Pretoria have been giving sufficient proof of their undeniable hatred of the Angolan people. Accordingly, rarely a week passes when the puppets do not demonstrate with their actions the commitment to indiscriminately massacre children, women, and theelderly for the simple reason that they are engaged in the process of national reconstruction. This was the case in (?1978) in thevillage of (Canhala), and also last year a few kilometers from(?Luena) when the enemy attacked a passenger train and victimizeddozens of people, including children who were returning to theirhomes at the end of the academic year. This has also been the caseon other occasions, when defenseless people have been shot to deathfor the simple crime of working from sunup to sundown to make theland fruitful.
Last Wednesday, Huambo was the target of a further criminal action luanched by the declared enemies of our people. The criminals in the payroll of the most hated regime in Africa, in their despair and frustration as a result of the defeats they have been daily suffering on all fronts, have perpetrated another terrorist action. In a cowardly manner, they detonated a booby-trapped truck which they had placed in a residential area.

(?It is worth noting) that the area is an unavoidable crossing point not only for the residents on their way to their jobs, but also for children going to school. The explosive device exploded at 1730 victimizing 24 persons, including nationals and foreigners. Among the affected are students, workers, and two young children. Among the foreigners, 14 Cuban internationalists were mortally hit. All of them were working side-by-side with Angolans in the fields of health, education, and construction on national reconstruction, trying to raise the standard of living of our people. In this criminal action, 30 people were lamentably wounded, including Angolans and Cubans, 6 of them in a serious condition.

When this further criminal action was known in Huambo, the entire population demonstrated a wave of indignation which was on the following day reflected in a mass demonstration demanding justice. The people of this town gathered at the provincial commission headquarters with leaflets condemning the gangsters and at the same time reaffirming greater determination in and dedication to the defense and security tasks in accordance with the guidelines of their leader, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. The criminals will not remain without a response. The Angolan people do not forget their fallen sons, victims of the murderous fury of the traitors and outlaws. The criminals will not go unpunished. They should be assured of this. We shall be able to mete out to them the punishment that they deserve. They will all pay for their crimes, wherever they may be. We shall be hard in the application of revolutionary justice, thus responding to the most profound sentiment of our people.

AFP Report
AB231522 Paris AFP in French 1434 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Luanda, 23 Apr (AFP) — Twenty-four people died and 30 others were wounded in the attack by UNITA (the armed opposition group hostile to the Luanda regime) in Huambo (central Angola) on Thursday, the official Angolan radio announced in its 1400 (1300 GMT) newscast. The victims are 14 Cuban technical experts working in the fields of education, health, and housing, as well as 10 Angolan nationals, including 2 children, the radio added. The 30 wounded, 6 of whom are in serious condition, are also Cuban technical experts and Angolan nationals, the Angolan radio added, confirming that the explosion from a booby-trapped car next to a building housing "Cuban international workers" was carried out at 1730 local time (1630 GMT). The official Soviet news agency, TASS, announced on Sunday that the attack claimed about 100 lives, while UNITA announced in a statement issued in Paris that more than 200 people died, including "3 Soviet second-lieutenants and 37 Cuban officers."

Military Tribunal To Try 6 Plotters in Bie

MB231421 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text]) In Kuito, Bie Province, the military tribunal of the 4th region will from today try six compatriots charged with promoting treasonable actions against the fatherland, espionage, and collaboration with the UNITA puppet group. The individulas are (Simaokuiza), (Manuel Filipe Macedo), (Antonio Faria), (Joao Canhango), (Antonio Rufino), and (Paulino Jeque). The trial will be chaired by Second Lieutenant Adriano de Lemos, presiding judge of the military tribunal of the 4th region.

RCP Notes Importance of Bilateral Agreements

MB230657 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] The results of Angolan-Romanian talks held during the recent visit to Romania by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, were recently approved by the Political Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP]. The documents were approved following the presentation by Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the RCP, of information on the official and friendly visit to Romania by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, underlining the prospects for the development of relations between the two parties and governments in the interest of both peoples and in the struggle for peace and international cooperation.

The Political Executive Committee of the RCP noted the importance of the agreements signed between the MPLA-Labor Party

and the RCP with regard to the intensification of contacts and cooperation between the two parties and respective countries in political, economic, technical, and scientific fields. The RCP Political Executive Committee also appreciated the conclusions of Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Jose Eduardo dos Santos on the international situation in view of various tension spots in the world.

To conclude, the Political Executive Committee of the RCP reiterated its militant solidarity with the Angolan people and expressed the determination of Romania and Angola to actively cooperate in the international arena, particularly within the United Nations, the Group of 77, and the Nonaligned Movement.

Further on Capture of Foreigners at Novo Redondo

MB231359 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] The General Staff of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] issued a communique on 27 March supplying information about certain Bulgarian and Portuguese citizens captured by FALA in the town of Novo Redondo on 25 March. The Bulgarians are: (Manuel Milofanu Konstantinof), born on 17 January 1946, married, planning engineer, arrived in Angola on 12 July 1980; (Lazarina Vatrinova Gimitrova), born on 31 February [as heard] 1955, doctor of mathermatics, arrived in Angola on 12 July 1980; and (Katarina Konstantinova Stoinova), born on 10 June 1941, pediatrician, arrived in Angola on 8 August 1982.

Some of the captured Portuguese citizens are: Antonio Luis da Costa Correia, born on 2 June 1946, mechanical engineer, trained in Porto, arrived in Angola on 10 February 1983; Dr Lima Martins da Fonte, born on 14 January 1953, trained in Germanic languages, arrived in Angola on 10 February 1984.

Further on, the communique signed by FALA Chief of General Staff reads: The MPLA left these people in the outskirts of Novo Redondo under the protection of the People's Defense Organization.

This capture demonstrates that either the MPLA no longer has troops and for this reason the foreign technicians should have withdrawn from war zones in Angola or it is lying as usual because the capture of Novo Redondo, the capital of Cuanza Sul Province, by UNITA was a big humiliation, greater than that of Alto Catumbela, Cangamba, and Kanfunfu. There are Western correspondents of the BBC in Luanda. Why not ask them to visit Novo Redondo, the scene of the fierce battle of 25 March?

All the British, Filipino, and Portuguese citizens captured in Kangunfu, Lunda, on 23 February have already arrived safe and sound at UNITA General Headquarters in Cuando Cubango. If men and nations cannot learn to talk, they will continue to fight. This will be true in the forthcoming months. The struggle triumphs. United we shall win. The UNITA General Headquarters in Angola. Signed by Brigadier Demostenes Amos Chilingutila, the FALA chief of General Staff.

MOZAMBIQUE

Central Committee Issues Final Resolution

MB230830 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 22 Apr 84

["Final resolution" of the third session of the Frelimo Party Central Committee read by External Relations Secretary Joaquim Chissano in Maputo on 21 April — recorded]

[Text] The Frelimo Party Central Committee held its third session from 19 to 21 April 1984 in Maputo. The Central Committee assessed and approved the report from its Political Bureau on the activities carried out since the fourth congress and the level of implementation of the decisions. The Central Committee dealt with the priority tasks of defense and strengthening peace following the Nkomati Accord. It analyzed the national and international situation and its implications for the party's strategy and tactics in the fight for the defense of the fatherland, elimination of underdevelopment, and building of socialism. The Central Committee assessed the proposals for the state general budget and state central plan for 1984 and approved their presentation to the People's Assembly.

The party Central Committee paid homage to the memory of Comrades Yuriy Andropov, Ahmed Sekou Toure, and Edward Sokoine.

The Central Committee approved the activities of the Political Bureau in the leadership of the party, the state, and the mass democratic organizations, the implementation of congressional decisions, and the definition of priorities while mobilizing the people as a whole for the implementation of great national tasks. The report correctly translates the results of the joint efforts made by the party and state to implement congressional decisions. The Central Committee hailed Comrade President Samora Moises Machel for the exemplary manner in which he has led our party and state, especially for the great successes that, under his personal leadership, we have attained in military and diplomatic fields. In particular, the Central Committee congratulated head of state Marshal Samora Machel for his role leading to the signing of the nonaggression and good neighborliness accord with South Africa — an expression of our party's socialist policy of peace and the materialization of the permanent desire of our people to live in peace. [applause]

The Central Committee congratulated the Mozambique Armed Forces, FPLM, for the successes attained in the combat for the liquidation of the armed bandits. These successes prove the justness of party guidelines and result from the profoundly popular nature of our Army, and the unshakable determination and high combat morale that has been displayed by the soldiers, noncommissioned officer, and officers of our Armed Forces.

The Central Committee hailed with profound joy the formation of the Organization of the Mozambique Workers, an army of the working class and the labor force in general in the fight against underdevelopment and for the building of socialism. The Central Committee hailed the Mozambican people with great emotion and respect for their courage, firmness, and patriotism that have

once again been displayed throughout the difficult phase we are facing. In the presence of the criminal actions of the armed bandits, the effects of drought and floods, and the difficulties resulting from the economic crisis, our people maintain their certainty in victory and the unshakable determination to overcome all obstacles and to fight to implement the great objectives defined by the party.

Having profoundly analyzed the present situation, both at the internal and external levels, the Central Committee considered that the answer to our present preoccupations and difficulties lies in the implementation of the fourth congress decisions. The Central Committee considers that the fundamental task of the party, state, and mass democratic organizations is to resolutely pursue the application of those decisions. It is particularly important that the party organs maintain permanent control over the implementation of the tasks defined by the fourth congress. In this context, the Frelimo Party Central Commmittee decided the following:

I. On the Role of the Party and Mass Democratic Organizations

1. At this stage the party machinery must assume as a priority task the strengthening of the cells, the grassroot structures where the essential party work is carried out. Improving the quality of the party grassroots work demands that the Central Committee member and the cadres at various levels take part in the work of the cells at their places of work or residence. The cells must double their efforts to work on programs based on specific situations, which are designed to fulfill the production plans of the sectors in which they operate, while corresponding to the problems, preoccupations, and aspirations of the workers and residents. In this context, the monitoring and guidance of cells by the party's higher echelons must pay particular attention to supporting the definition of tasks and controlling their execution. Whenever necessary, the provincial committees must strengthen the district and local organs in order to equip them for the implementation of this work.

2. Priority must be given to the political and administrative reorganization of the areas in which the armed bandits are being eliminated in order to guarantee the rapid normalization of the lives of the local residents. The party structures must carry out an intense patriotic mobilization campaign among the people and a propaganda campaign aimed at the armed bandits themselves.

3. At this stage the mass democratic organizations must concentrate all their efforts on the national tasks that have been defined as priorities, namely the liquidation of the armed bandits and the fight against famine and nakedness. The holding of the Organization of Mozambican Women [OMM] extraordinary conference and the Mozambican Youth Organization [OJM] second conference shall be postponed. The OMM extraordinary conference will take place from 6 to 10 November 1984. The date for the OJM second conference will be set by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee in accordance with the great national priorities. The Central Committee hailed the successes achieved by these two organizations throughout the preparation process for the respective conferences, a process which involves the broad masses of the people and greatly contributes to the popular establishment of the OMM and OJM.

II. On the Defense of the Fatherland

1. The organizational offensive within the Armed Forces must be pursued to heighten correctness, organization, discipline, operational capability, and combat preparedness, which are essential conditions for a greater efficiency in the fight to liquidate the armed bandits, and to defend sovereignty, territorial integrity, peace, and socialism.

2. All organs of the party, state, and mass democratic organizations must recognize the patriotic education of the citizens as a task of the society as a whole, the realization of which begins within the family, in every Mozambican home. Compulsory military service must be an instrument to mobilize the population and heighten patriotism. Patriotic education must be a continuing preoccupation implemented through specific activities and in all sectors.

3. The support and assistance to the families of the victims and to those maimed by the successive wars endured by our fatherland and the rebuilding of the devastated areas are a duty of all the people and must be a preoccupation of the party and state organs. The grassroot organs of the party, state, and mass democratic organizations must promote local activties to support the families of the victims and those who have been maimed. In this framework, the Bank of Solidarity must play an important role.

III. On the Fight Against Underdevelopment

1. Specific measures must be adopted to make the state structures which lead our economy more operational and efficient in order to improve their response to development requirements. In this framework, particular attention must be given to coordinating the central organs guiding the economy. The local capability for analysis, decision making, and execution must be strengthened.

2. The political and organizational offensive must continue in all sectors, thus reviving the spirit of the offensive's first campaign in the continual combat against laxity, apathy, inactivity, laziness, lack of interest, bureaucracy, indiscipline, waste, speculation, hoarding, black marketeering, theft, sabotage, and corruption.

3. The guiding organs of the state must study and give priority to applying measures to rendering enterprises profitable by improving the utilization of resources and the existing capacities, and by resolving the problem of the labor force surplus and unproductive means. The normalization of monetary flow must be assured by correcting existing irregularities in prices and salaries, credit and taxes, and profit margins and employment. Salaries must be linked to production to encourage continued professional training and to reward good work and penalize bad. Priority must be given to the producer in all aspects of our country's economic life, namely, the provision of the means of work and supply. A price policy must be adopted to give effective earnings to the producer and to encourage mercantile production of foodstuffs, efficiency, and productivity of enterprises. The development of workmanship activites and local small industries must be supported, and specific responsibilities must be defined by the central state machinery for the correct coordination of programs to support these activities. A clear-cut policy to encourage foreign exchange earnings must be applied. The erroneous

concept that denies or minimizes the role of the family and private sectors in the fight against underdevelopment must be fought.

IV. On the Policy of Peace and Cooperation
Considering that the socialist policy of peace, which was approved by the fourth congress, is being correctly applied, the diplomatic action initiated in 1983 must be pursued in order to strengthen the successes that have been achieved and to increasingly use diplomacy as an instrument for peace, economic development, strengthening of friendship and cooperation with all countries, and strengthening of socialism.

V. On the Law, Public Order, and Justice
1. The legal offensive must continue. The political and organizational work within the Armed Forces, police, and security forces, as well as the reorganization of the judicial system, must be stepped up. The correct functioning of these organs of popular power must become a school where all the people learn to respect the law. The Central Committee noted deviations from and violations of the Constitution and the law by members of the police, the National People's Security Service, and militias. There are still problems related to arbitrary detentions and irregularities in prisons. The errors that have been detected must be immediately corrected. The authors of these irregularities and crimes must be charged and punished. Justice is an important aspect of the security and tranquility of the citizens. Therefore, the role of the party and the people's assemblies in leading and controlling this process must be felt in a rigorous manner. [applause] There is a pressing need for greater efficiency and continuity in the functioning of the judicial organs, including the Revolutionary Military Tribunal.

2. Operation Production must continue, thus strengthening the positive results already achieved in the campaign to integrate outlaws and unproductive people living in the cities into productive activity. Operation Production regards work as a right, and enables the creation, among all the Mozambican people, of respect and taste for work and the feeling that work is a duty. Errors of planning and method that have been made must be corrected so that Operation Production may increasingly fulfill its objectives and reward the greater popular enthusiasm that surrounded its launching. The respect for mankind was and still is the raison d'etre of our struggle. In pursuit of Operation Production, there must be an improvement of conditions for the economic, social, and cultural integration of formerly unproductive people, and for effective material, political, and moral support. The development of Operation Production presupposes new organizational measures that guarantee efficiency and respect for the rights of the citizens.

3. Since the militias play an important role in the combat against and annihilation of the armed bandits and in the maintenance of public order, it is necessary to improve their function by clearly defining their permanent tasks during wartime and peacetime, as well as their organization. Militas are formed by workers organized in their work and residential areas under the political leadership of the party organs and the operational leadership of the Mozambique Armed Forces. The organization of the command of militias is urgent.

VI. On the Commemorations of 25 September 1984
In accordance with the appeal made by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee on 23 March, we must transform the period commemorating the 20th anniversary of the beginning of the armed struggle of national liberation into a high point of popular mobilization and participation, an apex of implementation of the guidelines of the fourth congress of our party. All organs of the party, state, mass democratic organizations, socio-professional organizations, and cultural, sport, and recreation associations, based on the experiences that have been accumulated during the preparations of the fourth congress, must plan specific programs in support of the commemorations so that we mark in a dignified manner the historic importance of the date that we celebrate this year. The struggle continues.

Maputo, 21 April 1984

RSA Delegation Arrives for Cahora Bassa Talks

MB230919 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] The South African deputy foreign minister, Louis Nel, arrived in Maputo this morning for talks with the Mozambican Government on the Cahora Bassa project. Shortly after his arrival, delegations from Mozambique and South Africa began talks in Maputo. The Mozambican side was led by Antonio Branco, the minister of industry and energy. The texts of the final agreement on Cahora Bassa were approved last week following tripartite talks between Mozambique, South Africa, and Portugal. It is hoped that the final agreement and the electricity supply contracts will be signed soon. The South African delegation is expected to return to Pretoria today.

Communique Issued on Talks

MB232016 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Mozambique, South Africa, and Portugal will sign an agreement on Wednesday next week on the use of power from the giant Cahora Bassa Dam in Mozambique. The agreement will be signed in Cape Town by Mozambique's Planning Minister Mario Machungo, Portugal's Foreign Minister Jaime Gama, and South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha. On the same occasion a contract for the supply of Cahora Bassa power will be signed. Under this contract, South Africa will receive a maximum annual supply of 1,450 megawatts a year. South Africa for its part will supply Mozambique with about 90 megawatts this year through its Electricity Supply Commission system. The details were announced today in a communique issued at the end of talks in Maputo between Mozambique and South Africa.

According to the communique, the supply contract establishes a new tariff for electricity supplied to South Africa. The new price was not specified, but the communique said it responded to the interests of Mozambique, South Africa, and Portugal.

The Cahora Bassa Dam was built in Mozambique toward the end of the Portuguese colonial era and one of the main aims was to supply South Africa with electricity. Portugal incurred heavy

debts when building the dam and is supposed to pay off these debts with money from sales of power to South Africa. However, until now the tariff has been too low to enable Portugal to do this. The three governments have been negotiating on a new agreement since the middle of February. Once the agreement is fully operational, South Africa will get 8 percent of its electricity needs from Cahora Bassa. In today's communique, Mozambique and South Africa condemned the recent sabotage of power transmission lines in Mozambique. The Mozambican side at today's talks in Maputo was led by the minister of industry and power, Antonio Branco, and the South African delegation was headed by the deputy foreign minister, Louis Nel. Portugal was not involved in today's talks, but South African and Portuguese delegations discussed the matter in Lisbon last week and agreed on the text of the new agreement.

SOUTH AFRICA

Deputy Foreign Minister Returns From Maputo Talks

MB232017 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] An interstate agreement between South Africa, Mozambique, and Portugal about the supply of power from the Cahora Bassa project is to be signed in Cape Town on 2 May. This was announced at Jan Smuts Airport near Johannesburg this afternoon by the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Louis Nel, on his return from talks in Maputo. Mr Nel said the supply contracts made provision for a maximum annual use by South Africa of 1,450 megawatts. South Africa would in turn supply about 90 megawatts through the ESCOM [Electricity Supply Commission] system to Mozambique this year. Mr Nel said that once Cahora Bassa was in full operation, the supply of power from Mozambique to South Africa would represent 8 percent of South Africa's requirements. He said the present tariff was last adjusted 7 years ago and in the light of changed circumstances the new supply contract made provision for a new tariff. He also said the sabotage of transmission lines was clearly against the best interests of all three countries and added that the partners had all condemned terrorism and sabotage wherever it might occur. Mr Nel said the security of the power grid had been referred to the joint security commission between South Africa and Mozambique.

Ciskei Head Says Promises Not Fulfilled

MB231235 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] The South African Government has been criticized for not fulfilling promises made to the people of Ciskei. The charges come from Ciskei President Lennox Sebe. Speaking at the annual congress of the Ciskei National Independence Party at the weekend, Sebe said many promises of economic development had not materialized and that most Ciskeians were still not being properly fed. Sebe alleges that South Africa promised to set up the institutions to improve the quality of life in the area. He says this has not been done. According to Sebe, inflation has reduced the amount of aid from South Africa to half its original value.

Nzo Says Accords Protect Apartheid System

MB231632 Luanda ANGOP in French 1330 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, 23 Apr (PANA/ANGOP) — Alfred Nzo, ANC secretary general, declared in Addis Ababa last Friday that the diplomatic accords between South Africa and its neighbors are a safety device to protect the apartheid system against the forces of national liberation in southern Africa. The ANC leader added that South African diplomatic efforts aim to reconstruct a "cordon sanitaire" composed of Angola, Mozambique, and Namibia before Namibia's independence. Mr Nzo also denied the allegations of the racist regime that Pretoria is seeking peace with its neighbors. He cited as revealing indicators the recent vote in the South African Parliament of a defense budget on the order of $3.5 billion and an increase of 41 percent in the police budget. Mr Nzo, who has been in Addis Ababa since Wednesday, was received by Goshu Wode, Ethiopian minister of foreign affairs. He is scheduled to leave Addis Ababa on 24 April.

Portugal's New Role in Africa Examined

MB230628 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Station commentary: "Portugal in Southern Africa"]

[Text] That an historic change of fortunes and alliances is under way in southern Africa is further underscored by the coming visit of Portugal's foreign minister. After an 8-year eclipse, Portugal is back in strength in the subcontinent, not as overlord, but as economic and diplomatic partner. In the next 10 days Mr Jaime Gama will visit Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and South Africa. The trip is the latest in a continuing round of negotiations that have had spectacular results. Two months ago Mr Gama was in Luanda as a sequel to talks he had held with Foreign Minister Pik Botha in Lisbon in December, when Portugal offered to act as mediator in the region. Shortly before that, President Samora Machel had paid an official visit to Portugal, and last September President Eanes was in Washington, where his governemnt was asked to pursue actively its diplomatic offensive in southern Africa.

The upshot was the withdrawal agreement between South Africa and Angola and the Nkomati Accord with Mozambique. It was tangible evidence of a fundamental reorientation of political and economic attitudes in South Africa, after the turbulence left behind by Portugal's scramble out of the region in 1975. The collapse of the Portuguese empire had left a vacuum that the Soviet Union was quick to fill.

The result, American Assistant Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger said, was that the region's conflicts became world issues. Angola became an arena of intense civil strife and contest between the Soviet Union and the West. Mozambique was caught up in regional conflict. For both countries, however, Marxism proved a poor substitute for free enterprise, and the dictatorship — the proletariat in the form dictated by the Soviet Union and Cuba — brought with it unprecedented internal violence and ruinous confrontation with South Africa.

In the counteroffensive launched by the United States through its policy of constructive engagement, Portugal, with its colonial contacts, proved an invaluable diplomatic partner. The country's return to southern Africa dates from 2 years ago, when President Eanes visited the two former colonies. Diplomatic agreements were signed. Portugal won a 200 million rand civil engineering contract in Angola and, since then, it has also been developing intercompany agreements with Mozambique in building, shipyards, chemical and textile plants, and mechanical engineering. Gradually Lisbon has built a new relationship with the two countries, providing the West with an entree. It offers a common language, a stock of recent experience of the way of life, and a reserve of medium technology, expertise, and middle-level managers. Imaginative diplomacy has brought Portugal back to southern Africa, not just in symbolic gestures of friendship with former enemies, but as a catalyst in an integrated program to change the whole diplomatic and economic aspect of the subcontinent.

SWAZILAND

Reportage on Arrests of ANC Members

2 More Members Arrested

MB231028 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1000 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Two more ANC members have been arrested in Swaziland. A Swazi police source says a large cache of arms, ammunition, and explosives was uncovered at the weekend. A third ANC member has reportedly given himself up to the police. This is the first surrender of an ANC member since the appeal at the weekend by Swazi Police Commissioner Titus Msibi to all ANC members to give themselves up.

Cache of Arms Discovered

MB231239 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Our correspondent in Mbabane reports that the Swaziland police have discovered another large cache of arms, ammunition, and explosives. The weapons, found near the town of Lomahasha on the Mozambican border, include AK-47 rifles, automatic pistols, and land mines. Meanwhile, a Swaziland police spokesman has disclosed that two more suspected ANC members have been arrested in the country One of them was arrested at Malkern in central Swaziland, and the other at Nhlangano in the south. A third ANC man is reported to have surrendered to the police at Nhlangano.

Police Commissioner Confirms Arrests

MB231708 Mbabane Television Service in Siswati
1630 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] The commissioner of police, Mr Titus Msibi, today confirmed reports that some additional ANC members had been apprehended over the weekend, and also that another cache of weapons had been discovered near Lomahasha. Mr Msibi said the arms cache appeared to have been hidden for a long time and consisted of rifles, pistols, and hand grenades. When we inquired about the number of ANC members taken into custody, he was reticent and elusive.

However, our news reporters learned from reliable sources that one suspected ANC male member was taken into custody in Malkerns last Saturday morning. Additionally, two men, ostensibly ANC members, have been arrested in Nhlangano. One of them was put behind bars after he had voluntarily handed himself over to the police.

ZIMBABWE

Rally Speakers Cite Schooling, Dissident Measures

MB230714 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] The government is preparing legislation which will make it compulsory for parents to send all children under the age of 16 to school. Announcing the proposed legislation at the rally at (Davondale) yesterday, the minister of education, Comrade Dzingai Mutumbuka, said once the legislation is passed, every child under the age of 16 will be compelled to be in school. It will therefore be an offense for parents to fail to send children under the age of 16 to school. The minister, who did not indicate when the proposed legislation would come into force, said the government would like to ensure that all children receive education, regardless of racial or religious background.

Addressing the same meeting, the provincial chairman for Mashonaland West, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, said ZANU-PF will buy the (Davondale) farm and develop it into a cooperative. Comrade Shamuyarira, who is also the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, said there are plans to set up a supermarket and a beer hall on the farm. He said the government would also purchase (Mapinga) and (Mutorosheku) farms and develop them as cooperatives. The minister condemned ZAPU supporters in the area for committing acts of banditry against ZANU-PF members. Comrade Shamuyarira said the government will crush such irresponsible action.

In a related development, a ZANU-PF senator for Matabeleland South, Comrade Alex Ndlovu, urged the people in the area to cooperate with security forces in weeding out dissidents. Addressing rallies at (Siteku) in the (Gwende) communal lands and (Maphovu) in the Gwanda area at the weekend, Comrade Ndlovu explained that the government imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew in some parts of Matabeleland to contain the presence of banditry and dissidents in the area. He said although the curfew regulations had recently been relaxed and the flow of food to certain areas normalized, the dusk-to-dawn regulations will continue to prevail until government is satisfied that dissidents have been wiped out and all unlawful activities completely stamped out.